The Riponshire Advocate.

No. 1884 | Registered at General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a newspaper. | BEAUFORT, SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1904 | PRICE THREEPENCE

RELIABILITY.

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RELIABILITY.

What a lot in that one word when associated with any business whatever, and what a vast amount there is in it when bracketed with a WATCHMAKER'S and JEWELLERY BUSINESS.

YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED

Our business going ahead while others were standing still or going backwards.

YOU MUST HAVE AN IDEA

Of what our business is now compared to what it was a few years back.

YOU MUST GUESS

That there is something powerfully convincing about our method of doing business. ARE YOU ONE OF PAYNE'S CUSTOMERS? If not, we respectfully ask for your patronage, and if afterwards you do not think we are worthy of it, we are perfectly willing to lose it.

Whatever is done here is done properly. Whatever we sell you is "Right" in the full sense of that word.

Our stock embraces everything in the Watch, Clock, and Jewellery line, and a good selection is shown in everything. If there is one lot of goods more than any other we would like you to inspect it is our fine selection of Rings—either Wedding Rings and Keepers, Dress and Engagement Rings, or Gent's. Rings.

We have a beautiful stock of Diamond Marquise, Diamond Half-hoop, and Gipsy-set Dress and Engagement Rings, at all prices.

Another thing we wish you to bear in mind is that all PAYNE'S RINGS are made by Expert Ring-makers only. You can buy a ring here with confidence, and rest assured that it has passed through hands whose owners have made ring-making a life-long study. Of course, you can see from the foregoing that this is undoubtedly our specialty; but a splendid selection of other goods is shown as well, including Brooches, Links, Bracelets, Muff Chains, Photo Pendents, Gent's. Gold and Silver Chains, Lockets, Medals, Necklets, Gold, Silver, Nickel, and Gunmetal Watches, Clocks, Spectacles, &c.

Sight Tested and Spectacles Made to Measure. We can guarantee you satisfaction in every description of Watch, Clock, and Jewellery REPAIRS. Expert workmen employed in each branch of the trade.

The Address is—

GEORGE PAYNE,

WAWCHMAKER and JEWELLER,

BALLARAT

(Two doors down Sturt-street from the Post Office.)

FUNERAL REFORM.
Established 1860.

A. H. SANDS
(Late Wm. Baker),
UNDERTAKER,
Opposite the State School,
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.

Hearse and other requisites supplied in town or country.

Funerals of all classes furnished at the lowest possible charges.

Post, Telegraph, and Telephone Messages promptly attended to.

A. H. SANDS,
Cabinet Maker, Upholsterer, and Picture Framer.

A well-assorted stock of Softwood Timber, Picture Framing, Paints, Oils, and Window Glass kept on hand.

Give your orders for JOB PRINTING to the newspaper in your district, because it prints thousands of reports and notifications for which it receives no payment whatever. It is always spending its time and money to benefit and improve the prospects of the place through which it circulates. It gives you value in return for your printing order.

An advertisement is a paper man's marketable commodity, and it is quite as much so as a side of bacon, a pound of butter, or a ton of fleur. No man can afford to give away the things he sells for a livelihood, and the man who does so in order to get business is generally in a bad way. Don't try to put the paper man "in a bad way." But exercise a little human nature. Support him; he needs encouragement and support; but do it in the legitimate way. If the printer gets a few pounds worth of printing orders from you, he is not in a position to give you a pound's worth of advertising for nothing. And you have had value for the printing already. Go into a grocer's or draper's for L3 worth of goods, and the grocer's man or draper will not throw in gratis L1 worth of something else that you may ask for. Try him! you don't believe us.

SUPPORT

LOCAL INDUSTRY,

AND

SUBSCRIBE

TO THE

LOCAL PAPER,

THE

'RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE.'

We ask that our efforts for the district's good shall be recognised. An increased circulation means still greater usefulness on our part. When a neighbour or friend asks for the loan of the local paper, tell him or her that for the small sum of

3s per Quarter

It is obtainable direct from the office regularly.

In addition to complete and impartial reports of all local meetings, an interesting

14-Column Supplement

Is presented to Regular Subscribers.

ORDERS FOR

Plain and Ornamental

JOB * PRINTING

Executed with Neatness and Despatch.

Bear in mind that

ADVERTISING

ALWAYS PAYS.

Business men should note that as the Local Paper is extensively read in the district, it therefore affords a splendid advertising medium.

A Safe Remedy for all Skin and Blood Diseases.

If you suffer from any disease due to an impure state of the Blood, from whatever cause arising, you should test the value of Clarke's Blood Mixture, the world-famed Blood Purifier and Restorer. This medicine has 40 years' reputation, and is to-day more popular than ever, the reason of this being undoubtedly because this wonderful remedy does what it professes to do—it cures skin and blood diseases permanently.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

IS THE FINEST BLOOD PURIFIER EVER DISCOVERED.

It is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For

SCROFULA, SCURVY, ECZEMA, BLOOD POISON, ULCERS, SKIN and BLOOD DISEASES,	BAD LEGS, BLOTCHES, SPOTS, BLACKHEADS, PIMPLES, and SORES OF ALL KINDS,

it is a safe and permanent remedy.

It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains, for it removes the cause from the Blood and Bones.

NOTE.—This mixture is pleasant to the taste and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, and the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it.

TRIED MANY THINGS WITHOUT BENEFIT UNTIL I TOOK CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE.

Mr F. E. Lewis, 48 Bridge Street, Row, Chester, writes:—"Just a line in favour of 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I had eczema for seven months, and tried many things without benefit until I took your remedy. After the eighth bottle I was quite well again. Please accept this letter as a token of gratitude to your wonderful 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.'"—June 13, 1903.

ECZEMA AND IRRITATING SKIN TROUBLE CURED.

Mr W. G. Weston, care of Messrs Knott, of 49, Essex-street, Kingsland-road, N.E., writes:—"Gentlemen,—"I feel it my duty to inform you of the great benefit in health I have received through taking your famous 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I have been a sufferer from eczema and an irritating skin trouble since the age of thirteen. While an out-patient at one of the big London hospitals a doctor informed me that my disease was the result of looking after foreign horses. I have had as many as thirty horses under my care, my father being a horsedealer and jobmaster. He (my father) was speaking one day to a friend of mine who mentioned that he was being cured of an ulcerated leg, due to a horse-kick, by 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' Icontinued, however, to suffer until April 4 last, when my friend told me he was completely cured. Then I started to take 'Clarke's Blood Mixture' myself, and I am now completely cured, after suffering and being disfigured for several years. I am able to follow my employment, and am very pleased to think there is such a valuable remedy obtainable for such a small sum. I should be pleased to answer any inquiries concerning my case."—July 17, 1903.

ANOTHER PERMANENT CURE OF BAD LEGS AND ABSCESSES.

Mr James Waring, of Clay Coton Lodge, near Rugby, writes:—"It is with great pleasure that I write to tell you of the benefit I have derived from taking 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' For a long time I suffered with bad legs and abscesses. I was under a doctor for five months, and, not getting much better, I went as an outpatient to the local hospital for nine weeks. The doctor then told me I should have to go inside before he could do anything for me. I went in and stayed for thirteen weeks, and after undergoing two operations I got a little better. Before I had been out of hospital a week I became worse than ever, so my wife told me to try 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I did so, and after taking five bottles and using four pots of your salve I was completely cured. I have waited twelve months to see if my legs broke out again, but, thanks to your 'Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture,' I am as well to-day as I have ever been in my life. You can make whatever use you like of this letter."—Oct. 15, 1903.

IMPURITIES IN THE BLOOD.—"We have seen hosts of letters from all sorts and conditions of people, in which the writers acknowledge the benefit they have received from Clarke's Blood Mixture, which as a curative agent cannot be too highly estimated, since it cleanses and clears the blood from all impurities, and restores it to its normal condition." This is a good testimonial from the *Family Doctor*, the popular medical weekly, which goes on further to say:—"It is certainly the finest blood purifier that science and skill have brought to light, and we can with the utmost confidence recommend it to our subscribers and the public generally."

Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

Ask for

Clarke's Blood Mixture,

and beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

RE MINING LEASES.

It is notified for general information that applicants for Mining Leases are required, within seven days previous to lodging the application, to insert in a newspaper published in the district where the land is situated, or if no such newspaper, then in one published nearest the district, an advertisement or notice in the form marked "A" in the schedule relating to Mining Leases.

Justices' Fixtures.

The local J's.P. have arranged to attend the Beaufort Courts of Petty Sessions as under:—Second Tuesday.—Messrs F. Beggs, J. R. Wotherspoon, and Rear-Admiral Bridges. Fourth Tuesday.—Messrs M. Flynn, G. Topper, and T. Beggs.

THROAT AFFECTION AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight" cold, or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic Affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European Depot, 33, Farringdon Road, London, England.

GENERAL PRINTING

AT LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES,

"The Advocate" Office, Beaufort

Postal Intelligence.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS.

MAIL TIME TABLE.

RAILWAY.

Daily.	Closing Time. a.m.	p.m.
Melbourne ...	...	8 and 4.50
Ballarat ...	...	8 and 4.50
Geelong ...	...	8 and 4.50
Trawalla ...	...	8 and 4.50

Registered mail and parcels post close 20 minutes prior.

Ararat, 11.50 a.m., and 8 p.m. (including Sundays.)

Stawell ...	11.50	8 p.m. Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.
Middle Creek,	11.50	
Murtoa ..	11.50	
Buangor ...	11.50	

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

English mail per Mail Steamer, via Adelaide, 8 p.m. every Wednesday.

COUNTRY.

Daily	a.m.
Raglan ...	9.15
Waterloo ...	9.15
Waterloo S.,	9.15
Main Lead, ...	9.15
Chute ...	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday.	
Nerring ...	9.15
Lake Goldsmith ...	9.15
Stockyard Hill ...	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m.

Eurambeen ...	12.45
Shirley, ...	12.45

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

MAILS INWARD.
Arrive Daily.

From Melbourne, Ballarat, Geelong, and Trawalla.—12.20 p.m. daily and 8.40 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. From Melbourne and Ballarat, 7 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

From Ararat, Stawell, Middle Creek, and Murtoa.—5.30 p.m. daily. Ararat, Stawell, and Buangor, 8.30 a.m. daily.

From Waterloo, Waterloo South, Main Lead, Raglan, and Chute.—4.30 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

From Stockyard Hill, Nerring, and Lake Goldsmith.—4.30 p.m.

From Eurambeen and Shirley.—4.30 p.m.

From England.—Weekly.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Two deliveries by postman daily.

Office is open daily for transaction of postal and telegraph business, sale of stamps and postal notes from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m., and from 7 p.m. till 8 p.m.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

From 9 a.m. till 5 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SAVINGS BANK.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, 10 to 12 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. for receiving deposits only.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.
From 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.

OLD AGE PENSION PAYMENTS.
9 a.m. till 3 p.m.

G. M. CREAGH, Postmistress.

TAKE

BEECHAM'S

PILLS

To avoid Indigestion

That distressed feeling is simply a poorly-working stomach—it needs a little help—but no matter how bad it may be, a dose of BEECHAM'S PILLS will SPEEDILY GIVE RELIEF. Take BEECHAM'S PILLS for a few days and the trouble will disappear.

To Cure Sick Headache

Sick headache means an overtaxed stomach and a derangement of the digestive organs. BEECHAM'S PILLS have proved themselves a boon for removing that distressed feeling and discomfort. A dose will remove the immediate cause, and if repeated for a few days will enable your system to work normally.

Sold Everywhere in Boxes.

Price 1s. 1½d. (56 Pills) and 2s. 9d. (168 Pills.)

P. J. O'SULLIVAN,

SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER
SNAKE VALLEY.

A large Assortment of Saddlery and Harness Requisites kept in stock.

All kinds of Harness bought, sold, or exchanged.

Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Also Cash Buyer of Hides, Horse-hair, Beeswax, Furred Skins, &c., &c.

The Man Who Doesn't Advertise

Breathes there a man with soul so dead
That to himself he hath not said,
"My trade of late is getting bad,
I'll try another ten-inch ad."
If such there be, go mark him well,
For him no bank account shall swell—
No angel watch the golden stair
To welcome home a millionaire.

To such a man the noisy din
Of traffic may not enter in,
For bargain hunters by the score
Shall pass nor heed his dingy door;
For tho' his sign is on the wall
And on some barnyard gate a scrawl,
No people who have ears and sense,
Go prancing around to read the fence.

The man who never asks for trade
By local line or ad. displayed
Cares more for rest than worldly gain
And patronage but gives him pain;
Tread lightly, friends, let no rude sound
Disturb his solitude profound.
Here let him live in calm repose
Unsought except by men he owes.

And when he dies, go plant him deep
That naught may break his dreamless sleep,
Where no rude clamor may dispel
The quiet that he loved so well,
And that the world may know its loss
Place on his grave a wreath of moss
And on the stone above, "Here lies
A chump who wouldn't advertise."

—Mortimer Crane Brown.

"KEATING'S POWDER" destroys Bugs, Fleas, Moths, Beetles, and all other insects, whilst quite harmless to domestic animals. In exterminating Beetles the success of this powder is extraordinary. It is perfectly clean in application. See the article you purchase is "KEATINGS," i.e., with the signature THOMAS KEATING on each tin, as imitations are noxious and ineffectual. Sold in Tins, 6d and 1s. each, by all chemists.

Or you dry to do peesnis mitowt advertising, you will find yourself already like a boy drying to shlide a hill down mitowt shnow. Besides dere ish dese tifferences: ven you don't got some shnow you gant make 'em; but you can somedimes shenerally always make der advertising come right avay quick off, all der year rount, mit some moneys. —Joseph.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery, and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere.

J. B. COCHRAN, NEWS AGENT, BOOKSELLER, and STATIONER, begs to announce to the inhabitants of BEAUFORT and district that he is Sole Agent for the *Argus*, *Age*, *Herald*, *Star*, *Courier*, Melbourne *Punch*, Sydney *Bulletin*, *Riponshire Advocate*, *Leader*, *Weekly Times*, *Australasian*, *Australian Journal*, *Sportsman*, and all other Periodicals. All School Requisites kept in stock. Advertisements received for all the above-named papers. While thanking his numerous customers for past favors, he trusts, by strict attention to the delivery of all papers, to merit a fair share of their support. Advertisements received for all Melbourne and Ballarat papers. By sending through local agent advertisers save postage. Note the address—Next door to Wotherspoon & Co.

STEVENSON BROS.,

BUILDERS

AND

CONTRACTORS,

HAVELOCK STREET,

BEAUFORT.

Estimates submitted for all work in building line.

JOHN HUMPHREYS

COMMISSION & INSURANCE AGENT

ACCOUNTANT ETC.,

Neill Street, Beaufort.

RENTS and Debts Collected. Agent for the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

Agency Business of all kinds attended to.

YOU CAN AFFORD IT.

Very few are too poor now-a-days to take their country paper, and it is false economy to try and get along without it. Hardly a week passes that something or other does not appear in its columns that will be of financial benefit to the subscriber, and by the end of the year he had made or saved or won twenty times the subscription paid for it. The city papers don't take the place of the country ones, though some people appear to think they do. The city papers are all right in their way, but they do not give you that in which you are most interested—your country news. You cannot learn from them when and where your country meetings are to be held, who are dying or who are marrying, who are moving in or who are moving out, court proceedings, who wants to buy or sell farm or land produce, in fact hundreds of things of which it might be of particular importance for you to know. If you can afford to take only one paper, by all means take the one that is published in the country or district where you live. It will cost you less, and thereby you will be assisting yourself and keeping the money in the district.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, in writing, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.

2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their newspapers, the publisher may continue to send them until arrears are paid.

3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the post-office to which they are directed, they are held responsible until they settle their bills, and ordered the newspapers to be discontinued.

4. If subscribers move to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to the former direction, the subscribers are responsible

5. The court has decided that is refusing to take periodicals from the post-office or leaving them uncalled for, "*prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud."

6. Any person who receives a newspaper and makes use of it, whether he has ordered it or not, is held in law to be a subscriber.

HINTS TO FRIENDLY READERS

You want to see the local paper a successful institution.

Talk about it wherever you go

Mention it to the tradespeople with whom you do business.

If they don't advertise in it, try and induce them to do so.

If you are induced to buy anything from what you have read in its advertising columns mention the fact to the tradesman.

Don't lend your paper to any person who can afford to become a subscriber but is too mean to support local enterprise.

A country paper kindly supplies this beautiful simile:—"You might as well try to shampoo an elephant with a thimbleful of soapsuds as attempt to do business and ignore advertising."

FLORILINE.—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in parts of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot 33 Farringdon Road, London, England.

To our Readers and Patrons.

THE PROSPERITY OF A DISTRICT

DEPENDS chiefly upon the support and encouragement that is given by the population to local enterprise and industry. Every venture is to a more or less extent speculative, but each, whilst aiming at the success of the Promoter, must offer certain returns to those whose support is necessary to achieve certain advantageous results on both sides.

Therefore,

Support Local Industry and Local Enterprise.

The law of exchange was never satisfactory in its working; thus it was that the custom of buying and selling, using a standard currency was introduced. One form of that currency is known as "paper money," and of paper money there is more than one kind. All kinds are useful, but not every kind retains its original value. The "paper" money most valuable to a newspaper proprietor is that which is sent him by

"*Subscribers and Advertisers*"

and he will do his utmost to entitle him to a good share of it.

"The Riponshire Advocate"

is the Advertising Medium for all Contracts, Bills, and notifications of the Shire of Ripon and is the

ONLY NEWSPAPER

That is,

Printed and Published within the boundaries of the Shire,

And as the advocate of the interests and for the welfare of this district it has a claim for considerably greater amount of support, and has a greater scope for extended usefulness than any other journal or journals within a radius of the Shire Offices.

The Circulation of the Riponshire Advocate

Is

Steadily Increasing,

And the Proprietor, recognising the increased support in this direction, will use his utmost endeavors to merit and sustain the patronage accorded him by giving the Latest possible Local and General News, and the most interesting and instructive information.

"The Advocate,"

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING,

CIRCULATES in the following districts:—Beaufort, Stockyard Hill, Lake Goldsmith, Sailor's Gully, Main Lead, Raglan, Chute, Waterloo, Eurambeen, Buangor, Middle Creek, Shirley, Trawalla, Skipton, and Carngham.

With every issue of the Paper is given

A FOURTEEN-COLUMN

SUPPLEMENT,

Containing an
Interesting Serial Tale,
Amusing Anecdotes,
Pastoral News,
Poultry Farming,
Agricultural Intelligence,
Recipes,
Gardening Items,
Etc., Etc., Etc.

Business Men, Read.

It was Benjamin Franklin who wrote—

"What steam is to machinery, advertising is to business."

And another writer has said that—

"He who in his "biz" would rise,
Must either 'bust' or advertise."

And advertisers cannot do better than make the *Riponshire Advocate* the medium for their announcements.

Arthur Parker,

Printer and Publisher,

LAWRENCE STREET, BEAUFORT.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

BALL TICKETS & PROGRAMMES,
ADDRESS & BUSINESS CARDS,
MINING SCRIP, REPORTS, &c.,
PAMPHLETS, CIRCULARS,
BILLHEADS, POSTERS,
DELIVERY BOOKS
DRAPERS' HANDBILLS,
CATALOGUES, MOURNING CARDS,
SOIREE & DINNER TICKETS,
&c., &c.,

PRINTED in FIRST CLASS STYLE

AT MELBOURNE PRICES.

Office:—Lawrence Street, Beaufort.

Plain & Ornamental Printing

Of Every description executed at the "RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE OFFICE.

BOOKBINDING

ON REASONABLE TERMS

MINING SCRIP, CALL RECEIPT DELIVERY BOOKS, &c.

Prepared on the shortest notice.

DRESS FABRICS.

COUGLE'S.

In our DRESS DEPARTMENT we are showing a Choice Assortment in all the Latest for Winter Wear, at Moderate Prices.

TRUE ECONOMY LIES IN BUYING GOOD THINGS.

No. 1. Eight pieces plain Venetian Cloth, 42in., useful shades. Price, 1s. per yd.

No. 2. Six pieces Granite Tweed, stylish in appearance, and suitable for winter weather. Price, 14d. per yard.

No. 3. Six pieces Zibeline Friezes, 45in.--one of the latest materials for the present season. Price, 16s. 6d Dress.

No. 4. Eight pieces Coating Serges, in Black, Navy, Brown, Green, 1s 11d yard.

No. 5. Seven pieces 45in. Venetian Cloth, in Black and every fashionable colour. Price, 1s. 9d. per yard.

COUGLE'S,

HAVELOCK STREET,

BEAUFORT.

THE Riponshire Advocate

Published every Saturday Morning.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1904.

THERE is a good deal of doubt existing in regard to the payment of interest on rate arrears in connection with the opinions furnished by the legal advisers of the Municipal Association on what is laid down by the Local Government Act of 1903. To prevent any confusion, the Association should have the position defined in unmistakeable terms, and place all councils in possession of the information for their guidance without delay. Mr Justice Hood's decision, which has already been referred to, declares that the Act is mandatory, and that not only can councils charge interest, but they must do so. There is no option in the matter; the interest is as much an asset of the municipality as the rate, and no council by any resolution can allow a defaulter to escape the penalty. To secure enrolment on the ratepayers' roll it is necessary that interest on overdue rates must be paid as well as the rate, and this has been taken objection to by the Bendigo Council, which suggests that the Act should be amended in the direction of not having the disfranchisement enforced. This council has during the last two years remitted rates to the amount of £300, and it would be interesting to know how they stand in the face of the latest decision. The new Act provides that interest must be charged on all arrears between December, 1891, and the operation of the present Act at the rate of 6 per cent. At the Ferntree Gully court of petty sessions recently, on a summons for the recovery of a current rate, the bench disallowed a claim for interest on arrears which remain due and payable by the same defaulter under a previous order of the court. On these bare facts it looks as if the bench had not adhered to the new law, and the council concerned intends to have legal advice taken to settle the point. The Borung Shire Council has taken another stand, and has decided by a majority that all ratepayers shall be enfranchised whether their rates are paid up to time or not. It is difficult to say how this will fit in with the Act, as a legal opinion has been expressed that interest on arrears *must* be paid by the 10th June to entitle the ratepayer to enrolment. If the position taken up by the Borung Council is good, this part of the Act fails; but the position is not maintained by the interpretations which have been placed on the measure. It has also been asked whether the interest shall be simple or compound, is it to be charged on the total owing, or does it continue on the arrears alone. The Act sets forth that—"All rates and other moneys due . . . from the 29th December, 1891, or from the time when the same became payable, whichever may have last happened, until the commencement of this Act shall thereafter until payment or recovery thereof bear interest at the rate of £6 per centum per annum." The legal advisers to the association give the opinion that only simple interest is chargeable, and another point is whether interest which, under the 1891 Act, should have been paid with arrears, but was not, can be sued for now or be made a charge on the property. The answer to this from the same source is that unpaid interest which could have been recovered under the 1891 Act can still be recovered, and is still charged on the property in respect of which it arose. Councils and ratepayers are alike interested in seeing the doubtful points settled, and it is almost certain that at the coming conference of the Municipal Association this part of the Act will be keenly discussed, and, as already stated, some amendments are being hinted at.

Local and General News.

The monthly meeting of the Riponshire Council takes place on Monday next.

For Children's Hacking Cough at Night, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

The business places at Beaufort will be closed on Monday next, to celebrate the Prince of Wales' birthday.

CLARKE'S 41 B PILLS are warranted to cure in either sex, all acquired or constitutional Disorders, Gleet, Urinary Organs, Gravel and Pains in the Back. Free from Mercury. Established upwards of 36 years. Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the world. Proprietors, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England.

Riponshire ratepayers are again reminded that to entitle them to enrolment all rates (general and water) must be paid by 10th inst.

For Bronchial Coughs take Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

A general meeting of the members of the Beaufort Brass Band is convened for Wednesday evening next, at the Mechanics' Institute.

Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, for Coughs and Colds never fails. 1s. 6d.

At the Ballarat City Court on Tuesday, Chas. Keil, cycle agent, of Ballarat, was the complainant in an action on a cheque for £7 16s 8d of which payment had been stopped by the defendant, John McDonald, farmer, of Middle Creek. Mr S. Young, of Beaufort, appeared for the defendant, and on his application, as there was no appearance for complainant, the Bench dismissed the case and awarded £3 3s costs to the defendant.

WOODS' is the name, a remedy
Of sweet peculiar excellence;
GREAT, as the mighty restless sea,
'Tis purchased too at small expense,
PEPPERMINT doth form its base,
With Pharmaceutics, pure, of course.
CURE you? Oh fool! the hardest case
Cannot withstand its magic force.

The secretary of the Beaufort Football Club desires to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following donations towards the funds of the club:—Dr. G. A. Eadie, 10s 6d; Mr L. Bravo, 10s.

For Chronic Chest Complaints, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

Bonnington's Irish Moss — STARVE FEVER. The Universal Remedy for Colds, Bronchitis and Influenza. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Football.

The Beaufort Junior Football Club will meet Waterloo senior players at Waterloo on Monday.

The Beaufort and Waterloo State school-boys played a football match in the Beaufort Park on Saturday last, resulting in Beaufort scoring an easy win, the score being—Beaufort, 3 goals 7 behinds; Waterloo, nil. Mr M. J. N. Breen made a very impartial field umpire.

At the annual meeting of the Stockyard Hill Football Club the following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—President, Cr. D. Stewart; vice-presidents, Messrs. W. Lynch and G. A. Dunnet; captain, Mr R. D. Hannah; vice-captain, Mr A. Kirkpatrick; secretary and treasurer, Mr W. W. Anderson.

A match between Amphitheatre and Beaufort was played at Amphitheatre last Saturday. With a weak team, comprising only 16 players, the Beaufort team continued their unbeaten career by decisively defeating their opponents and scoring 4 goals 7 behinds to 1 behind. The best players for the winners were Hardy, Robertson, Holdsworth, Hannah, Cheeseman and Tyrrell. The goal-kickers were Young (2), Hardy and Welsh.

A football match will be played in the Beaufort Park this afternoon, commencing at 3 o'clock, between the Beaufort and Warrak Clubs. A charge of sixpence will be made to the ground. The Beaufort team will be represented by the following:—Young, Tyrrell, Cheeseman (2), Hardy, Lilley (2), Holdsworth, White, E. Hannah, Welsh, Stuart, Robertson, McDonald, Adams, Rowe, Schlicht, and Baker.

Hampden Election.

RE-ELECTION OF MR. D. S. OMAN BY A MAJORITY OF 775.

The general election in Hampden on Wednesday, as generally expected, resulted in the re-election of Mr D. S. Oman, but his very substantial majority of 775 votes exceeded the most sanguine anticipations of his supporters. Mr Oman himself was very confident of the result, and estimated that he would get a majority of 400. His popularity throughout the electorate was therefore very strikingly evidenced. His opponent, Mr T. R. Ashworth, had an uphill battle, the fact of his being a Melbourne resident and a comparative stranger to most places in the electorate, proving a very great handicap. The election was contested with the utmost good-will, and probably never before throughout the Beaufort district has the absence of party feeling been so noticeable. The local poll was much smaller than expected, only 279 votes being recorded, as against 329 at the previous election—a difference of 50. There were 31 postal ballot papers, this number being five less than in 1902. Nearly 50 were issued, and several have since come to hand—too late to be counted. As the postal ballot papers are opened in the presence of the scrutineers, and the signature on the counterfoil (without disclosing the vote) is compared with that on the form of application, the ballot paper portion of it being then put in the ballot-box, the method of counting these votes is necessarily slow, and in consequence the declaration of the poll was delayed by fully three-quarters of an hour. Private telegrams had been received by Mr Oman giving various returns from the southern end, and these were all in Mr Oman's favor. Notwithstanding the rain, a large crowd assembled in front of the Shire Hall to hear the result of the Beaufort poll. This was announced by Mr Thos. A. Oddie, the returning officer, at about 7.40 p.m., and great cheering took place at the result—Ashworth, 65; Oman, 214; with the addition of 14 and 17 respectively for postal ballot papers. Beaufort had thus alone given Mr Oman a bigger majority (149) than he had at the last election, viz., 113. At the same time the returns from eight other places which had come to hand by wire were communicated, and Mr Oman's supporters evinced considerable enthusiasm at the news that he had a majority of nearly 500. The Camperdown return was included in this batch, and at that place Mr Oman had a lead of 197. In a few minutes *Ripon-shire Advocate* extraordinaries, giving the returns to hand, were being freely distributed, and eagerly received. Besides posting up the returns, we published four extraordinaries, the latest being at 11.45 p.m. Mr Oman had then a majority of 780, with only three small returns to come in. The complete returns came to hand next morning, and the totals were—Ashworth, 950; Oman, 1725. Mr Oman's majority, viz., 775, was therefore an overwhelming one.

An analysis of the polling shows that out of 33 places Mr Oman had a majority in 20, exclusive of the postal ballot return. In the Beaufort division he had a majority of 402, polling 616, as against 214 by Mr Ashworth. The Camperdown division also gave him a lead of 297, Mr Oman securing 723 votes to 426 by Mr Ashworth. The Mortlake division polling was more even—238 to 207, or 31 in Mr Oman's favor; whilst in the Wickliffe division his majority was 45—148 to 103.

The arrangements in connection with the election were carried out by Mr Thos. A. Oddie and his substitute, Mr A. Parker, and they have the satisfaction of knowing that the work was performed without the slightest hitch. It is due to Miss Creagh, the local postmistress, to mention that the substitute returning officer's work was greatly facilitated by the courtesy and kindness shown by that lady, as also by the whole staff, to Mr Parker. Not only did she allow him to get his mail after the express had arrived at night, but also a couple of hours before the morning delivery, thus enabling him to promptly attend to correspondence and to forward postal ballot papers by the 8.15 a.m. mail (instead of, as otherwise would have been the case, sending them by the 5.15 p.m. mail), but she also most obligingly witnessed signatures to postal ballot papers after office hours, at the request of Mr Parker, when applicants had come from a long distance. In the work of despatching telegrams, also, Miss Creagh and her staff showed that promptness and close attention to duty (despite the labor involved, without the slightest increase of remuneration) necessary to the efficient carrying out of the arrangements connected with so large an electorate. Credit is also due to the police throughout the electorate for attending to the fitting up of the several booths and supplying ballot boxes. Mr Oman's supporters showed their delight at his return by placing him in a buggy and pulling the vehicle round the town. Mr Oman took the opportunity, on election night, of warmly thanking his supporters for his return, and naturally was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. The following are the returns:—

Polling Places.	ASHWORTH.	OMAN.
Beaufort Division—		
Beaufort	65	214
Raglan	17	76
Waterloo (within division),	18	56
Stockyard Hill	19	21
Skipton (within division),	10	38
Chepatowe	1	8
Snake Valley	32	108
Lintons	52	95
Camperdown Division—		
Camperdown	134	331
Strathvean (Cressy) ...	4	9
Lismore	11	67
Skipton (within division),	17	60
Terang	165	171
Naroghid	5	13
Noorat	81	65
Darlington (within division),	9	7
Mortlake Division—		
Mortlake	86	132
Darlington (within division),	18	11
Ballangeich	12	28
Hexham West	15	8
East Keilambete ...	29	22
Woorndoo	15	21
East Framlingham ...	32	16
Wickliffe Division—		
Wickliffe	7	12
Junction Wickliffe and Hamilton Roads ...	12	62
Bunnugal	4	1
Lake Bolac	12	21
Streatham	10	3
Kiora	7	2
Watgania	6	3
Tatyoon	16	9
Ross's Bridge	8	16
Ballyrogan	7	2
Postal Ballot Papers ...	14	17
Totals ...	950	1725

Majority for Oman—775.

At the last general election the voting was—	
D. S. Oman	1164
A. J. Black	1051

Mr Ashworth having wired that he would attend the official declaration of the poll, the ceremony was delayed till after the arrival of the 12.20 p.m. train on Thursday. He was met by Mr Oman and the returning officer, and acquainted with the fact that the poll would be declared at the Shire Hall, and they proceeded there together.

Mr Oddie, in the presence of about 20 persons, then formally announced the result of the poll—Ashworth, 950; Oman, 1725; majority for Oman, 775—and declared Mr Oman duly elected a member of the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district of Hampden.

Mr Oman remarked that he need not say he was very gratified at the result of the poll. The poll recorded in his favor had exceeded his most sanguine expectations. He felt in contesting this election that he had a very solid support, and that he had a large number of electors at his back, but he never expected to poll such a large vote in all the large centres. He was very pleased at his poll in both the mining and farming centres, as he was also at the result of the Beaufort district poll, which gave him 346 against 100! In the southern end he had also polled as well as he did two years ago, and felt very gratified at the result. Throughout the electorate he had polled not only a majority of the farming and mining vote, but also of the Liberal and Labor vote. He trusted his actions would be such as to enable him to retain the confidence of the electors throughout the constituency. He did not feel much inclined for a long speech, having had a very trying time, but he would say this, that he had known his opponent for two years, and had been on the best of terms with him. They had a conversation before the campaign commenced, and for his part had assured Mr Ashworth that there would be no bad feeling. The Opposition policy had been misrepresented by the Melbourne press in reference to its taxation proposals, but right through the contest he had maintained his intention to support a readjustment, not an increase, of taxation. Naturally Mr Ashworth made the best of his case, and he (Mr Oman) did the same for himself. As he had said before, he had no intention to support increased taxation, especially to the small farmer. He deeply appreciated the fact that he had polled the farmers' vote, and in thanking his supporters, trusted that his actions would merit the confidence reposed in him. (Applause).

Mr Ashworth thanked the 950 electors who had accorded him their support, and while, of course, he felt disappointed at being beaten, still he must try to get what satisfaction he could out of the result. One source of satisfaction to him at the present moment was that the election had been conducted in a fair and honest manner by his opponent. He (Mr Ashworth) had contested elections before, successfully and unsuccessfully, but he had never yet seen an election contested in a fairer or more open manner. They had had a friendly conversation at the start, and agreed that no matter what the result of the election might be they would be good friends. Another source of satisfaction, in his opinion, was that Mr Oman had beaten him by a substantial majority. If it had not been so he might have felt that he had not put every ounce of energy into the contest; but the majority was so absolute that he must accept it. Many people thought it was a grand thing to be a member of Parliament, and it was so in some respects, but a member had to sacrifice his domestic life and his business. That was the unpleasant side of politics. Looking at it in that light he would be compensated to a great extent for what he had lost. Mr Oman had told them that they differed politically, and it was his duty to uphold his policy, as it was Mr Oman's duty to uphold the policy of his side, and he thought he (Mr Ashworth) had done it fairly. Although they were politically opposed, they were all interested in the welfare of the State. He congratulated Mr Oman on his return by such a splendid majority, and trusted his actions in the future would be conducive to the best interests of the constituency and the State. (Cheers).

Mr Oman briefly thanked Mr Ashworth for his remarks, and in proposing a vote of thanks to the returning officer, said that the duties had been carried out to the satisfaction of everyone in the constituency. No pains had been spared to get the returns. Mr Ashworth seconded the proposition.

Mr Oddie, in returning thanks, said he was happy to hear that he had done his duty, but the credit was entirely due to his substitute, Mr Parker, who had carried out the arrangements under him.

Mr Parker was also called upon to respond, and in thanking those present for their evident appreciation of his services, expressed his pleasure at the work having been carried out smoothly and satisfactorily, and said that for his part it had been his earnest endeavour to so discharge the duties of his responsible position so as to merit the trust and confidence of all. It was all the same to him who came, and no matter at what hour, whether early in the morning or late at night, he had felt it to be his duty to do all in his power to enable an elector to exercise his franchise. In respect to the issue of postal ballot-papers, he wished to publicly acknowledge the extreme kindness and courtesy of Miss Creagh, the local postmistress, who had looked beyond the usual departmental red-tapeism, by allowing him to get his correspondence hours before the regular delivery, and had also very obligingly witnessed signatures to postal ballot-papers after office hours. By this means the issue of postal ballot-papers had been greatly facilitated, and he had been able to reply to all correspondence by the first mail.

Cheers were given for both Mr Oman and Mr Ashworth.

Cr. Sinclair, on behalf of the President of the Shire, then invited the company to partake of a glass of wine. In proposing the health of "The Successful Candidate, Mr Oman," Cr. Sinclair bespoke fair representation to all classes.

Mr Oman, in responding, thanked Cr. Sinclair for the manner in which he had proposed the toast, and assured him that during his past public career he had striven to carry out his duties honestly and fairly, and had never tried to set class against class. For that reason, he thought, he had received such a substantial majority. In the future he would endeavour to do the same. No one could say that he had ever favored a political friend as against a political opponent, but he had done his duty by all, and would do the same in future.

Cr. Sinclair then proposed the health of Mr Ashworth, remarking that he had fought the election in a gentlemanly manner, and trusting that if not for Hampden, at least for some other constituency Mr Ashworth would be elected to Parliament, and also hoping that he would succeed in his profession as an architect.

Mr Ashworth, in returning thanks, said he could not say at this moment whether he would again seek election to the State Parliament, as he never made up his mind hurriedly. He thought he had had bad luck, but it might have been because of his own fault, or because he was rash in coming to Hampden without making sufficient enquiries beforehand. Once a man won a seat and did his duty it was very difficult to unseat him. He had been very unfortunate in only being returned to Parliament just before the re-distribution of seats, and had bad luck in having to leave a place where he had become known to the electors and having to break new ground, because it was a difficult task to make oneself known when one had perhaps only one day in which to meet the electors of a place. He thanked them for the kindly way in which they had drunk his health and for the sentiments expressed.

Mr Oman, in proposing the toast of "The Returning Officer and his Substitute," referred to the conscientious, impartial, and efficient manner in which both of them had carried out their duties.

Mr Oddie and Mr Parker suitably acknowledged the compliment.

The health of Cr. Sinclair (proposed by Mr Ashworth, and responded to by Cr. Sinclair), was also cordially drunk, and the proceedings, which were of a very friendly nature, then concluded.

Nelson Province.

Number of Electors—7465.

Stuart Gladstone Black, landowner, Glenormiston.
James Drysdale Brown, barrister, Melbourne.
Thomas Dowling, grazier, Jellalabad, Darlington.
Hans William Henry Irvine, mine-owner and vineyard proprietor, Great Western.
Richard Richardson, farmer, Newlyn.

MESSRS. IRVINE AND BROWN RETURNED.

The results of the polling for the Nelson Province are now practically complete, only one return having to come in, which cannot affect the result. The election has resulted in the return of Mr Hans. W. H. Irvine and Mr J. Drysdale Brown. The following are the results:—

H. W. H. Irvine	3001
J. D. Brown	2373
S. G. Black	1814
R. Richardson	1157
T. Dowling	1102

Mr Richardson has entered a protest by wire against the declaration of the poll until the disfrancised electors of Creswick have recorded their votes. It appears that in compiling the roll for the Nelson Province the electoral officer for Creswick, Mr J. C. Roycraft, accidentally omitted all ratepayers whose property is rated at less than £15 per annum. It is alleged that some 350 electors were left off the roll and disfranchised.

The following are the returns from the Beaufort division:—

	Black,	Brown,	Dowling,	Irvine,	Richardson,
Beaufort	31	48	22	52	38
Raglan	11	23	8	17	20
Waterloo	4	17	2	8	2
Stockyard Hill ...	13	6	14	16	14
Skipton	9	4	13	10	2
Chepatowe	...	...	...	...	...
Valley ...	22	32	32	29	13

Bonnington's Irish Moss — Never Fails. To Cure a Cough or Cold. ONLY BOILED. ALWAYS USED.

Bonnington's Irish Moss — Aids the Cough. For Stubborn Colds and Childrens Hacking Coughs. THE MOTHERS FRIEND.

The General Elections.

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For the first time in the history of the State the people of Victoria had an opportunity on Wednesday of electing on the same day the two Houses of Parliament. In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution Amendment Act, passed by the Reform Parliament last year, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly were simultaneously dissolved, and the electors of each of those Chambers were charged with the duty of electing the new members. The Legislative Council, which hitherto consisted of 48 members, returned by provinces, some of which sent three members and some four, was reduced to 35 members. Seventeen provinces elected two members each, and the other member was elected by the employes of the State service and the Railways department, who were eligible to be enrolled as voters. The Legislative Assembly, as it existed hitherto, consisted of 95 members, but under the reformed constitution this number was reduced to 68. There were 65 single electorates; the railways employes returned two members, and the other branches of the State service returned one.

COUNTRY ELECTORATES.

BARWON.
Number of Electors—3780.
William Augustus Elliott, Footscray, Joiner (L.)
Jonas Felix Levien, Dryadale, Agriculturist (S.M.)*

Levien	1526
Elliott	843

BENALLA.
Number of Electors—3448.
John Joseph Carlisle, Yarrawonga, Vigneron (S.M.)*
John Guare O'Shea, Benalla, Journalist, (M).

Carlisle	1255
O'Shea	625

BENDIGO EAST.
Number of Electors—3800.
Alfred Shrapnell Bailes, Bendigo, Journalist (O.)*
John Paul Carolin, Bendigo, Importer (M).
Thomas Glass, Bendigo, Estate Agent (L).

Bailes	993
Glass	962
Carolin	521

BENDIGO WEST.
Number of Electors—4441.
Walter Alfred Hamilton, Bendigo, Accountant (O.)*
David Smith, Golden Square, Secretary (L.).
William Wallace, Maldon, Auctioneer (S.M.)*

Smith...	1248
Wallace	962
Hamilton	692

BORUNG.
Number of Electors—3205.
William Hutchinson, Warracknabeal, Watchmaker and Jeweller (S.M.)*
John Henry Dyer, Rupanyup, Farmer (M.)

Hutchinson	1187
Dyer	1040

GASTLEMAINE AND MALDON.
Number of Electors—3866.
Harry Sutherland Wightman Lawson, Castlemaine, Manager (O.)*
Frederick Moss, Maldon, Fruitgrower (L.)

Lawson	1824
Moss	961

DALHOUSIE.
Number of Electors—3967.
Reginald Ibon Argyle, Kyneton, Farmer (S.M.)*
John Gavan Duffy, St. Kilda, Solicitor (O.)*

Argyle	1465
Duffy...	1329

EAGLEHAWK.
Number of Electors—3886.
Alfred John Hampson, Bendigo, Eucalyptus Distiller (L.)
Huy Kirkwood, Eaglehawk, Legal Manager (S.M.)*

Kirkwood	1394
Hampson	1172

EVELYN.
Number of Electors—3212.
Ewen Hugh Cameron (S.M.)*
William Sell, Doncaster East, Orchardist (I.)

Cameron	1066
Sell	357

GEELONG.
Number of Electors—4702.
Charles Leonard Andrews, Geelong, Barrister (O.)*
William Brownbill, Geelong, Baker.
Will Henry Colechin, Geelong West, Tea Merchant (L.)
William Gurr, Geelong, General Agent (O).

Colechin	1153
Andrews	864
Gurr	573
Brownbill	268

GIPPSLAND EAST.
Number of Electors—3015.
James Cameron, Bairnsdale, Grazier, (S.M.)*
Pelling Hugh Gough Piggott Stainby Conant, Bairnsdale, Barrister and Solicitor (O.)
Donald McRae, Gelantipy, Grazier.

Cameron	880
Conant...	621
McRae...	205

GIPPSLAND NORTH.
Number of Electors—2974.
George H. Wise, Solicitor (O.)
Hubert P. Keogh, Bairnsdale (S.M.)*
L. Ross, Journalist (O.)

Keogh	910
Wise	735
Ross	234

GIPPSLAND SOUTH.
Number of Electors—4096.
Thomas Livingston (S.M.)*
F. C. Mason (M.).

Livingtone	1363
Mason	1145

GLENELG.
Number of Electors—3359.
Thomas Michael Burke, Glenferrie, Secretary (L).
Ewen Cameron, East Melbourne, Sheep Owner (S.M.)*

Cameron	1322
Bourke	875

GOULBURN VALLEY.
Number of Electors—3317.
Joseph Tiley Brown, Hawthorn, Auctioneer (O)*
George Graham, Wunghnu, Farmer (S.M.)*

Graham	1631
Brown	784

COMMERCIAL.

BALLARAT LIVE STOCK MARKET. Tuesday.

Fat Cattle—312 head was the supply penned for to-day's sale, consisting principally of useful descriptions, a fair proportion ranging from good to prime. There was an average attendance of the trade, and as the supply was rather more than the ordinary, competition lacked the briskness of the previous week, prices for all descriptions showing a slight decline on late rates, closing somewhat weak. Quotations:—Prime pens bullocks, £12 to £13 17s 6d; good, £10 to £11; useful, £8 10s to £9 10s; prime cows, £7 10s to £8 15s; good, £6 to £7. Calves—15 penned, including a few good vealers, which sold well; best, to 75s. Sheep—3914 was the number yarded for this day's sale, a larger proportion than of late consisting of quality ranging from good to prime, balance principally middling and useful descriptions. There was a good muster of the trade, and for best descriptions competition was animated, last week's best rates being fully maintained, while for other sorts no alteration in prices can be quoted. Quotations:—Prime crossbred wethers, 22s to 24s; extra, 26s to 27s 6d; good, 20s to 21s; useful, 18s to 19s; prime crossbred ewes, 20s to 22s; extra, 24s to 26s 3d; good, 18s to 19s; prime merino weshers, 19s to 20s 6d; good, 17s to 18s; useful, 15s to 16s. Lambs—528 to hand. The demand for all trade descriptions was again keen, prices ruling very firm at last week's best rates. Quotations:—Prime, 16s 9d to 17s; extra, to 18s 11d; odd ones, 22s 9d to 23s 6d; good, 14s to 15s; useful, 12s to 13s.

The following district sales are reported:—By Messrs Hepburn, Dowling, and Crawford.—1 cow for Mr W. G. Martin, Chepstowe, £6 2s 6d; 1 cow for Mr Thos. Phillip, Carngham, £6 2s 6d; 166 merino wethers, for Mr Philip Russell, Mawallok, Beaufort, to 20s 1d. By Messrs Macleod and Booth.—260 sheep for executors late Mr Alex. Bain, Stockyard Hill, Lincoln wethers at 27s 6d; comeback wethers, 21s 9d to 26s, averaging 24s 1d, 2-tooth comeback wethers 18s 11d to 23s, averaging 21s 1d, 2-tooth Lincoln wethers 19s 6d to 24s 3d, averaging 21s, comeback ewes 20s to 26s 3d, topping the market and averaging 23s 2d, Lincoln ewes 22s 9d to 26s 3d, averaging 24s 5d, 2-tooth ewes 19s to 21s 3d, averaging 19s 4d, the lot averaging 22s; 239 merino wethers, Mr Donald Stewart, Wongan, Skipton, to 19s; 202 merino wethers, Mr Adam Slater, Spring Bank, Skipton, to 17s 5d; 62 lambs, Mrs J. Fay, Middle Creek, 14s 2d to 17s 2d. By Messrs Valentine and Co.—2 merino rams for Mr L. Smith, Trawalla, at 20s 6d; 58 lambs for same owner, 18s 9d.

DULL WET WEATHER in no way interferes with the success of

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The Newest Styles in Photography.

The Art Folio,
The Wallet Photograph,
Artist Proofs.

BRIDAL PORTRAITS.—Our Studio has become famous for successful Bridal Portraits. Bridal Veils, Wreaths, and Bouquets kept the studio.

ENLARGED PHOTOS from any Old or Faded copy in the newest solid art wood frame, 20s. each.

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Mr. W. A. J. BRANSTON,
Surgical and Mechanical Dentists,
73 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,

Desire to notify the residents of Beaufort and surrounding districts that MR. BRANSTON may be consulted at BEAUFORT on the first Thursday of each month.
Teeth extracted painlessly.
All Artificial Teeth made on latest approved English and American principles.
Consultation Room—GOLDEN AGE HOTEL.
Hours—12.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST,
REGISTERED DENTIST,
AND
DRUGGIST,
HAVELOCK STREET, BEAUFORT.

In this established profession the first attention is devoted to the
DISPENSING DEPARTMENT.
Every care is ensured in the art and preparation of prescriptions, &c. The latest appliances are used in the Laboratory in Medical Tinctures and British Pharmacopœia Preparations, the Purest Chemicals and Drugs being used. Medicines at Ballarat Prices, sent to all parts of the State by post, rail, coach, &c., and all letters receive prompt and careful attention.
HARRIS'S ANÆMIA MIXTURE, an excellent and invaluable remedy.
ENGLISH AND AMERICAN HERBS.
Homeopathic Medicines. Horse and Cattle Medicines.

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Surgical & Mechanical Dentist,
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Teeth fitted accurately on vulcanite or gold at lowest prices.
PAINLESS DENTISTRY.—Teet extracted painlessly with cocaine ether, chloride of ethyl, laughing gas, &

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Proctor and Conveyancer,
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"RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE."

Notice to Advertisers.

OWING to the inconvenience caused by Advertisements being received after the appointed time, we beg to notify that unless ALTERATIONS TO STANDING ADVERTISEMENTS reach us by WEDNESDAY Morning, such alterations will not be made till the following issue.

In future this rule will be strictly enforced, in fairness to our employees.

Correspondents are also requested to send reports by Thursday.

A. PARKER, Proprietor.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

SUNDAY, 5TH JUNE, 1904.

Presbyterian Church.—Beaufort, 11 a.m.; Waterloo, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.—Mr A. McLeod. Chute, 3 p.m.—Mr S. Collins. Lexton, 11 a.m.; Raglan, 3 p.m.; Beaufort, 7 p.m.—Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A.

Methodist Church.—Beaufort, 11 a.m.; Chute, 3 p.m.; Raglan, 7 p.m.—Rev. R. Yeo. Raglan, 7 p.m.—Mr Waldron. Main Lead, 3 p.m.; Beaufort, 7 p.m.—Mr A. J. Carlton.

A. N. A.,
BEAUFORT BRANCH,
Meets at 8 p.m. on TUESDAY next, at the SOCIETIES' HALL.
Item on Syllabus.—Magazine Night.
All meetings open to the public.
W. T. HILL, Secretary.

Elections.

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the history of Victoria had an sday of electing two Houses of dance with the itution Amend- Reform Parlia- islative Council Assembly were d, and the electors ers were charged ng the new mem- Council, which 48 members, re- some of which ad some four, was bers. Seventeen o members each, r was elected by State service and ment, who were d as voters. The ly, as it existed f 95 members, but constitution this d to 68. There rates; the railways wo members, and of the State service

LECTORATES.

WON.
lectors—3780.
Elliot, Footscray.
Drysdale, Agricul-
... 1526
... 843.

ALLA.
lectors—3448.
arlisle, Yarrawonga.
ea, Benalla, Journa-
... 1255
... 625.

IGO EAST.
Electors—3800.
Sailes, Bendigo, Journa-
Bendigo, Importer (M).
ndigo, Estate Agent (L).
... 993.
... 962
... 521.

DIGO WEST.
Electors—4441.
Hamilton, Bendigo, Ac-
len Square, Secretary (L.)
e, Maldon, Auctioneer.
... 1248
... 962
... 692.

RUNG.
of Electors—3205.
hnson, Warracknabeal.
r and Jeweller (S M.)*
Rupanyup, Farmer (M.)
... 1187.
... 1040.

AINE AND MALDON.
of Electors—3865.
and Wightman Lawson,
e, Manager (O.)*
Maldon, Fruitgrower (L.)
... 1824.
... 961.

DALHOUSIE.
of Electors—3967.
Argyle, Kyneton, Farmer
Duffy, St. Kilda, Solicitor
... 1465
... 1329

EAGLEHAWK.
of Electors—3886.
mpson, Bendigo, Eucalyptic
Eaglehawk, Legal Mana-
... 1394
... 1172.

EVELYN.
ber of Electors—3212.
Cameron (S.M.)*
Doncaster East, Orchardist
... 1066
... 357.

GEELONG.
mber of Electors—4702.
Leonard Andrews, Geelong.
er (O.)*
rownbill, Geelong, Baker.
y Colechin, Geelong West, Tea
ant (L.)
urr, Geelong, General Agent (O).
echin 1153
irews ... ... 864.
r ... ... 573.
wnbill 268

GIPPSLAND EAST.
mber of Electors—3015.
ameron, Bairnsdale, Grazier.
Hugh Gough Piggott Stainsby
nt, Bairnsdale, Barrister and
itor (O.)
McRae, Gelantipy, Grazier.
ameron 880
nant... 621
cRae... 205

GIPPSLAND NORTH.
Number of Electors—2974.
H. Wise, Solicitor (O.)
P. Keogh, Bairnsdale (S.M.)*
Journalist (O.)
Keogh 910
Wise 735
Ross 234

GIPPSLAND SOUTH.
Number of Electors—4096.
Livingston (S.M.)*
Mason (M.).
Livingstone 1363
Mason 1145

GLENELG.
Number of Electors—3359.
Michael Burke, Glenferrie, Secre-
ry (L).
Cameron, East Melbourne, Sheep
wer (S.M.)*
Cameron 1322
Bourke 875

GOULBURN VALLEY.
Number of Electors—3317.
Tate Brown, Hawthorn, Auc-
oneer (O.)*
Graham, Wunghnu, Farmer (S.M.)*
Graham 1631
Brown 784

OUTCAST OF MILAN

PART 7.

CHAPTER XIII.

NEED OF REST.

The duke of Milan was astir earlier than usual, and by eight o'clock the prince and Hugh de Castro were with him in his closet.

"This day," cried Ludovico, "shall see me amply avenged. Upon Rosabel of Bergamo I shall lay my hand with authority; and upon that dog of an outcast I will see the seal of death fixed!"

"Aye," responded the duke, "we can have no further trouble. I did fear somewhat that the princess might so far oppose us as to have recourse to her single right of refusing a husband. This would have been a difficult matter for us; but the edict of his holiness has removed that obstacle, and this lady's consent is not material. But we will not have a large assembly at the marriage ceremony. Only those whom we can trust shall be there. On the morrow the marriage shall be published, and celebrated throughout the city."

"How is the maiden?" asked de Castro.

"As stubborn as ever," replied the duke.

"Not a very pleasant wife," the captain remarked, turning upon the prince a light smile.

"It makes little difference to me," said Ludovico, with an ugly twist of the mouth "I become master of the castle of Bergamo and, if my wit does not leave me, I'll show the lady Rosabel that I can master a refractory woman.

"I pity her, if she forces you to the test," returned de Castro, with a significant nod.

"So do I," rejoined the prince. "Still," he added, with considerable self-assurance, "I do not fancy that she will put me to much trouble. Her proud spirit will soon break down when she finds that every turn will only draw more tightly the bonds of her own suffering.

"If her spirit doesn't break," suggested Manfred, with one of his fiendish leers, "let her keep the strain up till her heart breaks. It will be as well in the end."

Hugh de Castro, villain as he was, could not hear this without a shudder. He joined freely in the crusade against Vendorme, for the youthful knight had wounded his pride; but he had no heart for exulting in the misery of the beautiful princess. Still he was willing to lend his aid to the accomplishment of the marriage, because whatever added to the power of the prince enhanced the value of his own station.

"And now," said Ludovico, "when shall the ceremony take place?"

"It shall be as soon as the hour of audience is passed," replied the duke.

"Good." Then turning to the captain the prince asked—"Have you the keys to the dungeon?"

"Yes, my lord, I brought them with me."

"Then I will go down and see if Vendorme is dead. I would like to know."

"I had thought of that very thing myself," said the duke. "Do you go and visit the dungeon, and in the meantime I will send a messenger to the princess."

Ludovico took the keys from de Castro, and when he had gone the duke sent his page to inform Rosabel that he would be with her as soon as he had given audience to his officers.

The audience on that day was short, and when Manfred returned to his closet he found his page waiting for him.

"Will the princess be ready?"

"The princess is not in her apartments, my lord."

"Ha—where is she?"

"She is not to be found. Her attendants have searched everywhere, but without discovering the least trace of her."

"She has not left the palace?"

"It is feared so, my lord. Her jewels are gone; and moreover, her bed was not pressed during the night."

"It cannot be!" cried Manfred. "She could not have escaped from the palace. If she is not in her own apartments, she must be concealed somewhere in the adjacent passes. Oho—she cannot escape so easily. She is lurking in some dark corner. Ha—here comes the prince."

"Aye," exclaimed Ludovico, quivering from head to foot, as he strode in and stood before his father, "it is the prince, in a cloud! Let your page withdraw."

The boy left the apartment, and the duke then turned towards his son, with an explanatory gesture.

"I know what you mean, Ludovico; but it will not avail. I have heard of her absence."

"Of her absence! Of whom do you speak?"

"Why—of the princess, to be sure."

"Is she gone?"

"She is missing from her chamber."

"O, holy angels guard us!" ejaculated the prince, wringing his hands as though he knew not what else to do. "I spoke not of the princess—I had heard nothing of her. I have been to the deep, dark dungeon, where our old enemies died, and where we left Orlando Vendorme."

"And did you find him dead?"

"Dead? No! I found him not at all! The place was empty. Not even a rat was there to show me signs of life!"

"Holy Saints! No, no, Ludovico. You trifle with me!"

"Trifle with you! I am not in a mood for trifling! Vendorme is gone!"

"Merciful heavens!" gasped the duke, "and Rosabel is gone, too! Are we both crazy! Are we blind! Do our senses play us false! No, no,—Vendorme could not have escaped. He could not force those ponderous doors."

"Not a door had been forced," returned the prince, "nor had a lock been harmed. I found every bolt in its place, and every door fast."

"Then some evil spirit is in arms against us! Ha—here comes my captain. How now, de Castro! You look troubled. What have you found amiss?"

"Only this, my lord," replied de Castro, closing the door behind him, and advancing into the room—"I think my fair minion, she who conveyed Vendorme to the dungeon, hath taken a sudden leave of me."

"What—was it Hippolita?"

"Yes."

"And is she gone?"

"I think so."

"When? When?"

"Sometime in the night."

"Then," cried the duke, "I think we begin to have light. Were the keys of the passage leading to our dungeon where she could get them?"

"How, my lord? Has—"

"Don't stop to question me, but answer. Were those keys where she could get them?"

"Yes."

"Then, de Castro, your wench hath done more mischief than an army could have done. Our prisoner is gone from the dungeon, and Rosabel of Bergamo hath gone with him!"

De Castro stood like one upon whom had burst a thunderbolt.'

"Gone!" he repeated, trembling when he spoke. "The outcast gone!"

"Aye—and the princess, too," returned the duke, his tones mingling with the grating of his teeth. "De Castro, if you do not find the runaways, I'll hold you accountable! I thought you could trust your wench.

"So I thought, my lord. Indeed, I did the best I could. Hippolita never deceived me before. But—but—"

"Well—but what?"

"But, my lord, this work must have been too much for her. Her weak, foolish heart was not proof against sympathy for the gallant knight."

"I think," said Ludovico, coming forward as he spoke, "that we had better cease our arguments, and start in pursuit. I am well convinced that de Castro hath done us no wrong willingly. If he has erred, let him make it good to us by finding that which is lost."

"I meant no accusation against our captain," said the duke; "and yet I have reason for offence. However, let us find the fugitives first, and then we may look into the other matters if we please. And de Castro, I shall not abate from my proposition. You must bring them back."

"I will do my best, my lord—be assured of that."

"The first look shall be made at the house of the armorer," said Ludovico. "We must have Michael Totilla upon the rack; for I am sure that Vendorme would not have left the city without communicating with him."

De Castro shook his head.

"We must not trouble the armorer at present. We cannot approach him without committing ourselves; and we are not prepared to do that. If we seek him and make inquiries touching Vendorme, we but expose our part against the knight."

"The captain is right," said Manfred. "For our own safety we must move cautiously. Master Totilla, if I know him at all, is not the man to give up his friend; so we should gain nothing from him. We'll leave him until another time, and make our first inquiries of the palace guard, and then question the sentinels at the city gates."

Ludovico saw the force of the reasoning, and he urged his point no further. If, upon thorough search, the fugitives were not to be found in the palace, he was willing that de Castro should continue the work as he pleased.

As it was very evident that the three missing ones had gone together, inquiry was only made for the princess and Hippolita; and very soon it was decided that they were not within the palace walls.

Where next? De Castro knew, if Hippolita had led the way with his keys, that she must have gone out by his own private passage; so he called upon the sentinels who had been posted in the side court during the night. One of those men trembled, and his tongue faltered, when he met the gaze of his chief. The captain believed he had found the delinquent, so he sent the others away, for the purpose of questioning this fellow alone.

"Hark ye, Bernardo," said de Castro, "I know what has transpired; and now if you will answer me truly, you shall be safe; but if you attempt to deceive me, your head must fall. Did not some persons pass your post last night?"

The man trembled violently, but he could not escape the answer.

"Yes, sir," he replied, sinking upon his knees, "but I could not help it."

"Could not help! What a thing of wood are you to be a soldier! Up, and answer me. Stand up,—I have promised you your life if you asnwer truely. How was it?"

"Thus it was," said the guardsman: "Sir Orlando Vendorme made his appearance from the palace; and as he came out so honestly, and was so famed a gentleman, I did not oppose him with force. By a wicked manœuver he got my spear away from me; and, with his dreadful sword at my bosom, dictated his own terms. He had two companions with him—two women—and he had the key to the wicket—and I let them pass out."

"Did you see the faces of those women?"

"No, sir. They were covered with their mantles."

"Bernardo, you should have died at your post rather than allow such a thing."

"I thought of that, sir; but my life was sweet, and the knight would have passed all the same."

"Well, well,—I have not time to upbraid you further, but I have an offer to make. These persons must be found, and you are to help in the work. Your success will decide what more shall be done for you. Not a word of this to any living soul; but hold yourself in readiness in answer to my call."

The poor soldier was glad enough to get off upon any terms, and he promised that he would do all he could towards capturing the fugitive knight.

It was near noon when de Castro came to make his report to the duke.

"My lord," he said, "I have gained the clue; and I find another party mixed up in the matter. At the gate of the Saveso, some two hours past midnight, Gaspard of Saxony passed out, accompanied by one man and two females. Of course these must have been our fugitives."

"Gaspard of Saxony!" muttered the duke, with a nervous quiver of the lip. "I had my doubts of that fellow when he was here. What is he? Who is he?"

"He professes to be a servant of that young Count of Hartburg," replied de Castro.

"Yes—I know that; but O, I wish I knew what is now hidden from me. Who, who is Theodore of Hartburg?"

"Ah, my lord, you puzzle me beyond my power. But this is not the time for solving that question. It is very certain that Gaspard has gone off with our fugitives, and he must be found if possible. If we find his course, we shall find the course of the others."

"Right, de Castro. Into your hands I give the work. Bring back Rosabel of Bergamo; bring back Orlando Vendorme;—or, if you have the opportunity, kill him as you find him; and as for your girl, you may do as you please."

"I shall be quickly on the road, my lord, with half a score of my best men; and if I do not fall behind my expectations, I shall bring the missing one back to you."

* * * * * * * *

As the sun arose Gaspard and his party arrived within sight of a small village on the river Adda, distant some ten leagues from Milan. They had stopped upon the brow of a gentle eminence, where a soft breeze, laden with the balm of flower and shrubs, gave them sweet salute. Before them, and stretching away to the left, lay a billowy succession of fields and small vineyards, owned and cultivated by the inhabitants of the village; while upon the right flowed the river, beyond which a spur of the Rhetian Alps reared aloft their rocky peaks.

"How is it?" asked Gaspard, turning to our hero.

"If there is safe shelter here," replied Orlando, "I cannot go further now. I am very weak, and must have rest. Still, there must be no danger. Rather than run a serious risk, I would keep on till noon."

"No, no," said Rosabel, who had been watching the knight for some time, "you cannot keep on. It would be madness to think of it. It is a miracle that you have held your saddle so long."

"There is no need of going further," rejoined the Saxon. "I am acquainted in this hamlet; and if there is shelter to be found, they will find it for me. But we will not all enter at present. I have no doubt that our enemies will come this way; and if they do, they must not find our tracks. Do you remain here while I go forward and make enquiries. I will not be gone long."

Thus speaking, Gaspard rode away; and when he was gone Orlando slid from his saddle and lay down upon the grass. He was very weak, and he felt much pain in his head and limbs. He had endured much for one in his situation. Only a few short hours before he had been at the very gate of death from starvation, and all this labor he had endured upon the resuscitating power of a little bread and wine. Rosabel was quickly by his side, and as she brushed back his hair with her hand, she asked him if she could help him. He gazed up into her face, and, forgetful of his pain, he replied:

"I am helped already. Thy sympathy, is a cordial that makes my soul strong. But you need not fear. I am only weak. Rest will cure me."

When Gaspard came back he was accompanied by a man whom he introduced as his friend Marco Pazzoli. The newcomer was of middle age; of a light, active frame; dressed in the garb of a mountaineer; with a bow and quiver upon his back, and a short javelin in his hand.

"This man," said Gaspard, "you need not fear to trust. He has spent his life among the mountains, and he can take you to a place where no enemy can find you. What say you, Sir Orlando?"

"I will go with him," replied our hero, "for his face recommendeth him to my love." And as the youth spoke he struggled to his feet, and leaned against the horse; though he required help before he could reach his saddle.

"If you trust me," said the hunter, whose speech was frank and manly, "you will trust one who never knew what it was to betray a friend. I shall take you to the mountains, and give you shelter beneath a roof fashioned by the hand of God himself; and when you are once there you will be safe."

"I have thought this course best," explained Gaspard. "We could find shelter in the village, but we could not enter without being seen by many curious eyes, and if pursuers should happen this way, such a course might lead to trouble."

"The mountain is the safest place," said Rosabel. "Let us not go to the village."

"There is one thing more," pursued Gaspard. "It is the knight who needs rest; and when he is strong enough he will follow me across the Alps into Germany. But you, lady, need not remain here. A few leagues further on we will change horses, and before the setting of this day's sun you may be well into Tyrol."

Rosabel did not hesitate. Turning to the hunter, she asked:

"Is there room in the cavern for me?"

"Yes, lady."

"And for Hippolita?"

"Yes."

"Then I go with Sir Orlando, for he may need a woman's nursing. When he is able to move off, I will move with him."

The Saxon made no objection.

"You have a kind nurse, sir knight," he said to our hero.

But Vendorme made no reply, nor did he show his face. His head was bowed, and he seemed deeply moved. Gaspard saw the emotion, and without waiting for a prolonged silence he turned again to the princess:

"Fair lady, you can go with the hunter, and you may be sure of safety if you are yourself careful. I have only one promise to exact from you, that is, that you will be governed by Marco's advice so far as exposing yourself to danger is concerned."

"I shall be discreet," replied Rosabel.

"And you, Sir Orlando—may I not lay an injunction upon you? I myself am as nothing, but I act for one who hath some influence, and that influence I may safely pledge in your behalf. And so I urge you thus: Go with our good Marco, and remain with him until you see me again. I will come as soon as I can."

Orlando promised that he would do so.

"Only," he added, "I must judge whether accident hath befallen you. I will wait a reasonable time."

"Then all is well. I haste away that I may the sooner return."

With these words Gaspard of Saxony put spurs to his horse, and was soon galloping away over the plain. Upon the edge of a citron copse he turned and waved his hand, and in a moment more he had passed from sight.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE CAVERN.

"Now, sir knight," said the hunter, "if you and the ladies are ready, we will be moving. We had better get away from here before the people from the village come this way."

Orlando started to an erect posture, and for a moment he seemed like one just awakened from a dream.

"Marco Pazzoli, do you know that man?"

"What man?"

"The one who has just left us."

"Somewhat, sir."

"Do you know his master?"

"I have seen him."

"I mean the boy Theodore."

"Aye—it was of him I spoke. I have seen him, but beyond that I know no more than you do. And now let us be moving. If you have further questions to ask, I will answer them when we have reached our destination."

"You are right," responded Orlando, gathering up his rein. "We are ready to follow."

The hunter led the way down to the river, to a place where the water was shallow across a bed of solid rock, and where the horses forded the stream without difficulty. In a little while he struck into a narrow path, which wound around among rocks and trees, and which no one unacquainted with its abrupt sinuosities could possibly have followed. By and by they began to ascend a steep, rough acclivity, with the same tortuous winding of path, until finally the guide stopped in a narrow defile. The way seemed to be straight on, as the road opened wide and clear in that direction, but he had a different route. Turning to the right, he crowded through a mass of shrubbery and tangled vines, and a little further on the mouth of a cavern was presented to view.

"There," he said, as the party drew up before the entrance, "I do not believe that a stranger could find this place. And, what is more, I think that even you, sir knight, were you carried back to the river's bank, could not find your way up here again."

"You are safe in your opinion," replied Orlando. "But I suppose there are others who know of this cavern?"

"For ten years," replied the hunter, "I have found shelter here when passing my nights in the mountains, and three of my brothers share the secret with me; but during that time it has not, to my knowledge, been visited by any one else. Yet, before I found it, it had been used as a human habitation, but I think its former occupants have long since passed from earth. We may leave our horses here in safety, for they cannot wander far away."

Thus speaking Marco dismounted, and when he had assisted the others from their saddles, he led the way into the cave. For a short distance they proceeded in a stooping posture, but soon the way grew higher and broader, until at length they emerged into a spacious vaulted apartment, which was lighted from an aperture in the roof. Leading from this were several smaller apartments, where beds were set upon frames of wood, and where were various other articles of furniture. It was a comfortable habitation, and the fugitives seemed to breathe more freely as they found themselves within the ample protection of its massive walls.

"I think," said Orlando, resting his hand upon the hunter's arm, "that I must betake myself to one of the couches." He trembled as he spoke, and seemed ready to sink from weakness, and he might have sank had not Pazzoli supported him.

"Upon my life, sir knight, you are well nigh exhausted. You could not have ridden much further. But you shall have rest and nourishment, and if that can help you, all may yet be well." He led the youth into one of the smaller apartments, where a comfortable bed was already prepared, and having helped him to remove his outer garments, he brought wine and a few dried dates, after which Orlando lay down, and was very soon asleep.

When the hunter returned to the main cave, he announced to the females that he was to be their cook and their servant.

"I promised Gaspard," said he, "that I would make you as comfortable as possible."

"First," interrupted Rosabel, with a show of anxiety, "tell me how is it with Sir Orlando?"

"You need not fear for him," replied Marco. "He is sleeping soundly, and when he wakes he will be much improved. And for you, ladies, I have some bread and meat in my pannier, and there is wine and water in the cave. As soon as I have prepared your breakfast, I will return to the town and procure milk and fruit, and also bring some other little articles of comfort."

It was a grateful meal which the hunter provided, and as soon as the girls had eaten they retired to places of rest which had been pointed out to them. And so, at the hour of noon, when Marco Pazzoli started down the mountain upon his errand to the village he left his charges all fast asleep.

Just as the last rays of daylight were fading in the distant horizon, the hunter entered the cavern upon his return, and the sound of his footfall aroused Rosabel and Hippolita who had slept soundly until now, but Vendorme did not awake.

"He may be ill," said the princess.

"I think not," returned Marco. "He is sleeping off a prostrating fatigue."

"But—he should have awakened by this time, sir."

"Nay, lady," said the hunter, shaking his head, and yet allowing a light smile to creep around the corners of his mouth, "I fancy you would not have been yet awake had not my entrance aroused you."

"But the knight slept before I did, sir."

"Not long, lady; and moreover, you must remember that he was more in need of sleep than you were."

As the princess made no reply to this Marco proceeded to make preparations for supper. But Rosabel was not easy. She sat awhile and watched the movements of her cavern host, and then arose and took one of the candles which he had lighted. With a noiseless tread she approached the apartments where the knight lay, and as noiselessly did she enter. She was careful to make no sound which might disturb the sleeper, but she forgot her candle, and as its rays fell upon the knight's face, he awoke.

"Help! help!" he groaned, struggling to free himself from the clothing.

Impulsively the maiden started to his side, and tenderly brushed the raven locks from his brow.

"You are safe," she said. "Do you not know where you are?"

He raised his head, and as he gazed upon the beautiful face that bent over him, he seemed to recover his senses.

"Lady Rosabel! Ah—I remember. We are in the cave. Gaspard of Saxony brought us hither."

As he spoke he raised himself to a sitting posture, and presently he stood erect.

"Are you better, sir?"

"Much better, lady. My head is more steady. I think food would help me now."

"It was for that I came," returned Rosabel. "It is now evening, and our host is preparing supper. Will you join us?"

"Aye, most willingly."

And he walked out with her, leaning upon her arm.

The meal was a nourishing one, and when Orlando arose from the board he felt very much like his old self. His head ached no more, and he could stand without difficulty.

But he was not strong. He walked a few times up and down the large cave, and then shook his head as he sank upon a seat.

"I need more rest," he said with a smile "but there is nothing beyond that. A few days will restore to me my strength."

"Let that be your only care," returned the hunter. "If you will look to your health, I will attend to the other wants."

At any early hour the knight again sought his couch, and shortly afterwards Rosabel and Hippolita followed his example. It was on this evening, after they had retired, that Hippolita begged of the princess that she would never tell Vendorme how she had worked against him.

"I did not realize what I was doing," she urged. "I knew not how to disobey my master, and I followed his directions with fear and trembling. And yet—O, yet, lady, had I known what was intended—had I known the fate to which the young hero had been doomed—I could not, I would not, have done as I did. O, I hope and pray that he may never know all. Let the last act make recompense for the first."

"Rest easy, Hippolita," replied the princess, placing her hand kindly upon the girl's head. "Sir Orlando shall not know that you were ever led to work knowingly against him. If you are true and faithful henceforth, he shall only bless you for the service you have rendered him. And, furthermore, in promising this I am not departing from my own choice; for, truly, I think both the knight and myself owe you much. And so, we will be friends."

Hippolita went to sleep with the name of the princess, mingled with blessings, upon her lips.

On the following day, Orlando was strong enough to walk without fatigue; and by the time the shades of night gathered over the mountain again, he felt almost as well as ever.

Another morning came, and when the knight arose from the table, he smote his hand upon his breast until the cavern resounded with the echoes of the blows.

"I am myself once more," he said; "and am ready now for work. When will Gaspard return?"

"In a few days," replied Marco; "and perhaps sooner. He may be here to-morrow. However, you will wait till he returns."

"I don't know about that."

"I think it will be best."

Our hero had no desire to dispute or argue with his kind host, so he walked away to the entrance, and did not come back until the board had been cleared.

During that forenoon Orlando did not once speak with the princess, but walked apart by himself. After dinner, however he approached her, as she sat alone.

"Lady," he said, his voice trembling as he spoke, "I should esteem it a privilege if you would grant me a few moments of your time."

"As many moments as you desire, sir," she replied.

"I would ask you a few questions."

"I will answer them to the best of my ability. But first, sir, will you be seated?"

He sat down by her side, and after a little hesitation proceeded:

"First, lady, I think that Hippolita was deceived by those who sent her to my shop. I know you have already made some explanation of this; but my poor head was in such a whirl at the time that I may not have understood it."

"She was instructed to tell you a falsehood, sir," replied Rosabel. "I had no knowledge of her errand at the time."

"So I thought. And she it was who first conceived the idea of setting me free?"

"Yes, sir; for she alone, of all who were willing to befriend me, knew of your danger."

"And you, lady, knowing that she purposed to open my prison door, took advantage of the occasion for your own escape?"

"You do not put the question fairly, sir. The event resulted in my escape; but my escape was not the prime object. Hippolita, when she found to what a dreadful fate she had been instrumental in leading you, resolved to set you free if she could; but she could not do this without my assistance. She sought me, and I helped her."

Orlando bowed his head, and after a little he resumed:

"And thus, lady, we are both escaped from Milan. As for myself, I am as a wanderer upon the desert. Whither my feet shall turn when I leave this place I do not know. If I can serve you, you may command me. If I can aid you, I am as your slave. You have but to speak."

Rosabel was silent.

"Perhaps," continued the knight, "you have your course marked out—you have friends whom you will seek?"

The princess had been sitting for some time with her eyes bent upon the rock at her feet. She raised her head, and after gazing for a moment into her companion's face, she said, in a low, tremulous tone

"I was young when my father died, and the duke of Milan was made guardian over me. From that time I have been so completely under the control of the tyrant that I have had no opportunity to make many friends in the outer world. When the dreadful marriage with Ludovico was urged upon me, I began to look about for help. My thoughts turned first to Bergamo, but I knew not whom I could trust there; for those who held stations of authority would not dare to cross the path of the duke. In every direction I turned my attention, but the needed help I could not find. Finally the dark day was close upon me, and my whole future of joy or sorrow hung upon the chances of an hour. It was in that hour I met you. I need not recount what then passed. My scheme of redemption failed and I was cast back upon the mercy of the tyrant; while you, for having tried to help me, were banished from your native city."

"Aye, lady—I remember all that."

"Again," pursued Rosabel, "was the dreadful fate upon me. On the very evening when Hippolita came to me, the duke had been before her, and informed me that I was to wed with his son on the next day; and furthermore, he showed to me an edict from the Pope of Rome, ordering the marriage, so that even my power to give up my property to the church, and enter a convent, was taken from me. In an unexpected moment the opportunity presented itself of escape with you. What followed I need not tell I can only say—we are here, and whither next my feet shall tend I know not."

There was a palpable tremor in the knight's frame, but he had nerved himself for the task, and he was determined to go on to the end.

"Lady," he said, "I remember very well what has transpired, even to the words that have been spoken; but I cannot forget that you have been acting under powerful extraneous influences. You came to me first for help; you came helpless—defenceless and the words which you then spoke were spoken under circumstances over which you had no control. In short, I dare not presume upon the past. But now, lady, we are free. Ere long the Saxon will return to conduct us away. If it be your wish—"

"Say on, sir."

"I was about to say—if it be your wish that our paths should henceforth diverge you have but to speak."

"Nay, sir," said Rosabel; "you have no right to put that duty upon me."

"But I must put it upon you."

"Why so?"

"Because, if the choice were left with me, the word would never be spoken. Pardon me if I offend."

"What word would never be spoken?"

"The word of separation between thee and me."

Rosabel of Bergamo placed her hand within Orlando's embrace, and looking up into his face she said:

"As I once told thee beneath the roof of thy lowly shop, so now I tell thee again—tell thee when I am free to act as I please."

* * * * * *

Half an hour afterwards the princess called her attendant.

"Hippolita," she said, holding our hero by the hand as she spoke, "that you may know the full meaning of all you see and hear, and be thus enabled to serve me more understandingly, I have thought it fit that you should be taken fully into my confidence. Know, then, that to this gentleman my heart is given, and my hand is pledged."

TO BE CONTINUED.

WHIST IN THE CHURCH.

And that's what's the matter with Emporia too much whist. The painted china set is married to cards. Women have no higher thought from week-end to week-end than winning head prizes. They grow nervous, irascible, bad-tempered, and ugly playing cards. Little crows' feet appear at the corners of their eyes after an evening with whist, and deep vertical lines plough themselves just above their noses. There are more plain women in Emporia who lost their bloom at the rented card tables than there are women who have worn themselves out over the kitchen stove. It is worry, not work, that makes women fade, and cards are sapping the juice of the town. Only the young people patronise the public library. The old folks make "What's trump?" the chief end of man. Cards have invaded the churches. One church has a big factional row looming upon the horizon because the pastor has jumped cards. Another church narrowly avoided it last winter. A third pastor sees his best customers whooping it up in whist clubs and hasn't the nerve to say a word. In the meantime poker rooms, which are just as improving and elevating and just as helpful to the town as whist clubs, have opened on Commercial-street, and the town is enjoying the fruit of the seed the women have planted.

"SMITH" IN AMERICA.

There is hardly a State that has not a post-office with the name of Smith in it somewhere, and there are 1,500 postmasters and post-office employees named Smith.

There are Smith's creeks, Smith's fords, Smith's ferrys, Smith's mills, Smith's groves Smith's valleys, Smith's cross roads, Smith's lakes, Smith's landings, Smith's corners, Smith's rivers, Smith's flats, Smith's ranches, Smithburgs, Smith's basins, Smithtowns, Smith's branches, Smith's roads, Smith's forks, Smith's points, and, down in South Carolina, Smith's Turn-out—all post-offices, too, from Maine to California, and it is impossible to tell how many Smith places there are that are not post-offices.

There are upwards of 15,000 Smiths in the State of Michigan alone. In other States they are proportionately as numerous. In the national capital, a city of 250,000 people, there are over 1,200 Smiths, a Smith ratio of 1 in every 250, not counting the children, and the children are features of the Smith family.

N.B.—As we do not consider, in publishing these "Smith" statistics, that we have taken this eminently popular name in vain, the above article does not count for the Smith Vigilance Prize.

EVERY BILLIARD BALL COSTS A LIFE.

The globe of ivory which is knocked about a table in a game of billiards costs, if of good quality, at least £2. This represents its cost in money. There is, however, a far more important and formidable element in the price which has been paid for it. The billiard ball of pure ivory represents, as it lies white and glistening upon the cloth an expenditure in human life-blood as well as of money.

Elephants' tusks are brought down to the African coast by caravans generally in charge of Arabs, which have been trading in the interior. Very often they have picked up slaves as well as ivory. But this phase of the matter may be left out of the account.

It is estimated that every large caravan bringing ivory to the coast has cost more than 160 human lives through fights and murders in the course of the expedition. Thirty more men are likely to have succumbed to fevers or others diseases and the fatigues of the march.

The hunting of the elephants and the capture of the ivory are very likely to have caused the death of ten men altogether. Such casualties are the rule in elephant hunting rather than the exception.

An average tusk does not furnish more than enough material for two good billiard balls. Of course, the remainder of the ivory in each tusk is made use of in other ways; a perfect cut billiard ball requires special quality, or so-called "nerve," which is found only in one part of the tusk.

The chances are that a billiard ball of the first quality has cost at least one human life; and there is not one such ball which may not truly be said to be stained with men's blood. They can hardly be considered, therefore, a cheerful accompaniment to a sensitive person's diversions.

HE KNEW HIS BUSINESS.

"John," said Mrs. Meeker, after they had passed out of the tailor's establishment "its a wonder to me that you have ever been able to get along in the world at all. You certainly have no idea of business."

"Why," Mr. Meeker returned, "what has put such an idea as that into your head?"

"You didn't bargain with the tailor at all. When he showed you a piece of goods that you liked you just asked the price and then told him to go ahead and make your suit, without asking him to come down a penny."

"Pooh, what if he had come down? It would only have been a waste of time and energy if I had haggled with him over the price, even if he had been willing to cut it in two. I don't intend to pay him, anyway."

An uncommon disease caused the death of Harry Huepel, of Toledo, Ohio. His bones grew in bulk and length. In nine weeks his lower jaw lengthened two inches, and his height increased many inches. All he ate seemed to turn to bone and he was almost a skeleton in appearance.

* * *

The following is a copy of a sign in a remote Georgia county: "A Few Bright Scholards Takin to Lern Writin, Spellin and Figgers." A traveller, noticing the sign, asked the principal where he had graduated. The principal pointed to a cotton field near by and said: "Right over thar, sir; behind a Georgia mule, under a July sun."

The elephant does not smell with his trunk. His olfactory nerves are contained in a single nostril, which is in the roof of the mouth, near the front.

Maude: I understand she married him out of spite.

Clarice: Really?

Maude: Yes; she said, if no other man would propose to her, she was bound he should propose to no other girl.

HAREM LIFE IN MOROCCO.

During my visit to Tangier, says a writer in the "British Realm," I visited three harems. They varied but little. We were a party of several ladies, one of whom was born and lived all her life in Tangier, and as she spoke the Arab language well, she was good enough to act as interpreter. The visit had been arranged several days, so we were expected. I daresay my readers will be surprised to learn that it is very unusual in Tangier to keep more than one wife in the same harem, and as many houses are naturally expensive, the Moors there do not indulge in nearly as many wives as they do in Fez and other places. In the harem we were visiting the lady was no longer young, of medium height, and very stout, a type of beauty, by the way, among them, for no woman in a Moor's eyes has any pretensions to loveliness unless she is enormously fat. Our hostess was extremely dignified, and had been good-looking; she shook hands with each of us, and at the same time kissed her own in token of respect. She was dressed in a rich robe of yellow brocade, with a beautiful gold-embroidered waistcoat and pale green satin trousers. The long sort of coat which reached to her ankles was bordered with handsome gold buttons, and confined a little below the waist by a lovely brocaded sash. Over all this hung another long garment in fine white embroidered muslin, which softened the whole effect. Her head was bound up with many different coloured handkerchiefs, which fell knotted together half-way down her back. On her fingers and arms were many valuable rings and bracelets; her skin was rather dark, but she was not painted except round the eyes, the lids of which were carefully darkened at their edges, which much enhanced their appearance. The lady at once led the way to the best apartment in the harem, a long, narrow room, with white plaster walls, hung with mirrors, handsome glass chandeliers suspended from the ceiling, and the floor covered with beautiful hand-made carpets of the choicest description.

No furniture of any kind, except two musical boxes, which played Arab tunes and enlivened us with their strains, and were evidently much appreciated by our Moorish friends. The lady of the house motioned to us to be seated, and as we sank down on the soft cushions three other Moorish women (friends of our hostess) appeared, dressed in the gayest colours imaginable. They all had dark skins, with eyelids painted black; one was very young, not 20, but she had already four children, we were told; and, as they marry often at 12 and 14, I suppose it is quite possible; she was the only one of all that I saw whom I thought really pretty, as though many of them have very fine eyes, most have ugly mouths and bad teeth. The beauty was dressed in white lace over yellow satin, with a blue and gold embroidered waistcoat, bare feet, and red embroidered slippers without heels, with enormous rings in her ears, set with emeralds. Her hair was of a reddish brown, probably dyed, her finger-tips touched with henna. Her eyes were dark and lustrious, the eyebrows beautifully arched, a straight nose, and shapely mouth, with rather full lips, and a complexion not much darker than many girls one meets in England. She was more vivacious than most of the women, about whom there seemed a sad lack of intelligence—but is this to be wondered at since no sort of education is given them? The shape of their dress, though of the richest materials and the gayest colours, is ugly, making them look enormously stout, but as it is the height of their ambition to become so, there is a reason for the fashion of their garments. Besides, as, in their rainbow-hued draperies, they looked like a troupe of gaily-painted butterflies; but butterflies, alas, whose poor imprisoned wings but seldom flutter in the open air, a walk on the housetop, a visit to the bath or a lady friend, with all the precautions for concealment that Eastern jealousy can devise, being the maximum of liberty that is ever allowed them.

Our hostess led the way to another apartment, which we were told was the general living-room of the harem; it was also long, narrow, and windowless; a divan ran from end to end of it, with a "haiti" and cushions at the back. It contained a bed at each end, in a curtained recess, the mattresses of which were covered with beautiful green silk. We had been told that it was the custom to always have a dagger hanging on the wall near the husband's bed, and there, sure enough, at one end of the room, hung a murderous-looking weapon, but no one seemed to be able to enlighten us why it was placed there. The occupants of the harem take steam baths occasionally, and the black slave conducted me, candle in hand, through several narrow, dingy passages to the bath-room. It certainly was a most uninviting-looking apartment, a sort of dungeon, perfectly dark, with no window at all. In the stone floor were three holes with water in, from which steam was rising. As far as I could make out, the person taking a bath sits in a chair over the vapour, and is rubbed down by an attendant; this seems to be the novel form of ablution used in the harem, to European ideas sadly lacking both in comfort and cleanliness. There are, of course, also public bath-houses, which the women are allowed to visit very occasionally, enveloped in an enormous white cloak from head to foot, made of a coarse kind of white towelling, which entirely conceals their shape, nothing but the eyes being visible. This is invariably worn when they leave the harem, Friday being the day that they are mostly allowed out, accompanied by the black slave women, who act as duennas. But, in spite of the many precautions which Orientals have devised for the seclusion of their women, "love laughs at locksmiths" even in Morocco; that is, if one is to believe the many stories of intrigue which come from those thick-walled, windowless, prison-like houses. Black slaves are bribed, messages carried (for, alas! none of the women can read or write), and rendezvous arranged. Sometimes on the way to the bath the disguising-cloak in the dark narrow streets is drawn aside for a single instant, and "soft eyes look love to eyes which speak again." From the flat roof-tops, too, where the women are allowed to walk, flirtations are sometimes carried on, and where distance disarms the language of the eyes, flowers act still as a medium by which the sentiments may be conveyed, a telegraphic code perhaps hardly less dangerous. A fair one sunning herself on the roof above, admiring the view, toys with a bunch of freshly-gathered flowers; far down in the shady street below, passing as if by accident, walks a tall handsome young Arab gracefully wearing his long hooded cloak and loose white draperies. The fair one inadvertently drops a flower from her bouquet. A quick glance from the Moor up and down the street to see that no one observes him, and the blossom is picked up, a sign made, and the man continues on his way. Who shall say that the dropping of the flower was not an accident? And yet to these two it means much. Alas! can we blame these poor ignorant women, whom despotism shuts out from nearly all the joys of life—mere slaves, in fact, to the caprices of their masters, totally uneducated, and not even allowed to breathe the fair fresh air of heaven without numberless restrictions, leading aimless lives, with but little to interest them beyond the adornment of their persons? Can we wonder that, if only as a mere distraction to the dull monotony, the slave is bribed, the flower dropped, the meeting appointed? While learning all these details of harem life, the afternoon swiftly passed. After tea a silver jar containing rose-water was passed round, and each of us was sprinkled with the sweet-smelling perfume.

INDICATED IT.

In the course of a tedious trial, involving the possession of a stock of goods a man who had formerly been employed as a travelling salesman was testifying.

"Do you tell me, sir," asked the counsel for the plaintiff, "that you can't remember what you carried in your trunk on the trip in question?"

"I didn't say I couldn't remember," replied the witness. "I said that at this late day it was impossible for me to recollect everything I carried then."

"Don't evade the question, sir," thundered the barrister. "I want to know what was in that trunk?"

"Samples."

"Samples of what? Mention some particular thing."

"Well," said the witness, after reflecting a moment, "I remember I had a sample of a rather inferior hair-dye—about the sort, I judge, that you have on your whiskers, sir."

"You may stand aside," gruffly said the lawyer after the noise in court had subsided.

CAVALRY HORSES.

No animal known to man participates so fully in the feelings of its master as the horse. Veteran troopers and artillerymen realise the truth of this statement to its fullest extent. They know that the sentiment of fear or courage which animates them is time of danger is felt by the horse in just the same degree. There is such an intimacy between the horse and his rider that an electric sympathy seems to connect them. In battle or on the exercise ground the horse, having been trained in his duties, becomes more nearly part of the rider than anybody not in the troop or battery can understand.

Training a horse for military service is one of the most interesting duties which can fall to the lot of man. But the idea which obtains to a certain extent that isolated training is the rule is an erroneous one. Horses designed for artillery are trained to harness and saddle both. One of each team is under saddle all the time, a member of the battery riding him while the gun or caisson is in service. Cavalry horses are trained to the bridle, to follow the movement of the troop evolution, and soon come to understand the position in fours, the base of all movements, as well as the men.

No battery and no troop is made up altogether of green horses. The same rule regarding horses is observed as is used in training the men. A nucleus of well-trained horses is always maintained that the extras may have the benefit of experience and example in learning their duties. A green horse is placed in the inside of fours or as one of a team, so that he may be steadied by the experienced animals he is associated with. Green men are flanked by old soldiers for the same reason. But in both cases there is a definite period of individual training that the fundamental principles may be acquired.

BREAKING A GREEN HORSE.

When a green horse is sent to a battery or troop he is placed in charge of an experienced man for "breaking." It makes no difference if he has been accustomed to being mounted, he must be handled for military service. The man bridles him and then rides him without a saddle until he becomes accustomed to a rider. Then the saddle is used and the training continues until he is fairly bridlewise. Then he is forced to go through the exercises of turning, flanking, to the rear and in trot, gallop and furious run. He is taught to halt promptly on the word and a slight pressure of the knees. In private life this pressure is generally used to increase speed. In the military service it is used to bring the animal to a standstill.

Let a horse become accustomed to drilling and he will obey trumpet call as regularly as any man. In fact he makes fewer mistakes. He never goes to the right when the bugle commands a movement to the left, even if his master tugs at the bridle and endeavours to do this. He knows that call should send him the other way, and that way he goes, disregarding the efforts of the bewildered rider. Let him become accustomed to the clatter of sabres and carbines and he will be steady as a rock. When he becomes accustomed to the roar of the field guns, discharges disturb him not at all.

When a green horse first hears the big guns speak he will dance about and make vigorous efforts to break to the rear. Hence no two green horses are in one team. The old fellow will stand perfectly still while the new one will dance and try to bolt. He soon finds that he cannot drag the dead weight of the experienced animal and will also observe his team mate is not afraid and soon learns that there is no danger. Let him become accustomed to a place in a cavalry troop and if taken out he will find his own way back again. If not prevented, he will trot to his place and go through all the exercises, even though minus a rider.

"A horse is as brave in battle as any man," said an experienced army officer in reply to a question. "Let him be trained to military duty and he never forgets it. He shows the same kind of nervousness that a man does when first brought under fire. If permitted to bolt then he will never be of any account. But if held up to his position he becomes accustomed to firing and will charge a battery with distended nostrils, flashing eye and wild neighing. In charging cavalry he will rear at the moment of impact, strike with his fore feet and bite savagely at the enemy's horse.

SMELLETH THE BATTLE FROM AFAR.

When waiting in line for the order the horse will champ his bit, stamp his feet, tremble and sweat in his nervousness. When the order comes in the first place he will evince a strong desire to travel too fast. He is seemingly eager to get the thing over with as soon as possible. He seems to realise the danger, and like many a man he wants to dash right at it and be done. Let the men sheer and the horse will respond in a manner unmistakable. He frequently screams out in his wrath. If he is ever so obstinate when the forward movement first begins, as the line of the opposing troops is neared he will settle down and sweep along with the line, a marvel of steadiness and courage.

"Like a man, he does not cry out or falter when hit, unless so badly hurt as to be forced to fall out. If struck by a ball and not killed or so 'stopped' as to make movement impossible, he will race along until loss of blood or weakness from shock forces him to drop. Then he will struggle gamely with the weakness, and finally give up when nature is no longer able to keep up. In charging infantry he will run the opposing line of men down; under any other circumstances he will never place a hoof on a man. He can be trusted to walk all over a crowded camp among sick and wounded, and so pick his way that none will be hurt.

"If he loses his rider in a charge he will run about the field with his set of fours until thrown out by some movement. Then he will run about until caught or hit. If left alone long enough he will find his place in the ranks again and race about riderless, but with the precision born of his training. After a fight he is sulky and nervous just like his master. It will be several days before he will regain his composure. He does all these things with an intelligence as great, apparently, as that of a man. His first fight either makes or unmakes him. If he is allowed to bolt in the face of dangers, like a man he is never of any use afterwards. This failure to keep up his courage will make him a rank coward, and he is never to be trusted under fire again. But all told, the horse is as brave, steady and reliable as any two-footed soldier who ever bore arms. It is not to be wondered at that the troopers have as lively affection for their horses as they have for children."

A REMARKABLE SEPULCHRE.

The Church of St. Michan, situated at the rear of the Four Courts, Dublin, is a curious and wonderful monument of the past. It was founded by St. Michan, a Dane, in the year 1095, and was restored in 1676. The bodies buried in the vaults are preserved in an undecomposed and perfect state. The skin is dark yellow in colour, and as an example of the perfect preservation of the dead, it may be remarked that round the necks of the bodies of the brothers Sheares, who were hanged in the rebellion of '98 and afterwards interred in these vaults, the mark of the ropes can still be seen. Also buried there is the body of the Irish patriot, Robert Emmet. It may be interesting to state that Handel played his "Messiah" for the first time on the organ in St. Michan's Church.

A WORRYING THOUGHT.

"Please, sir, give me a calendar," said the small boy, as he looked at the shopman over the counter.

"We don't give calendars to children," replied the man.

"W'y not?"

"Oh, because children haven't any use for them."

"That's all you know. I've got use for one now, an' I want it bad. I've laid awake three nights worryin'."

"Humph! What is it you want to know?"

"I want to find out how many Christmusses is goin' to be spoiled by comin' on Sunday."

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'Twixt Love and Gold.

PART 10.

A HIGHLY SENSATIONAL ROMANCE OF LOVE AND ADVENTURE.

By J. Hanmer Quail,

Author of "The Cup Winners," "His Madeline," "Fenton Friars," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XIII Continued.

"What am I to do?" asked Wylva in a perplexed tone, as she handed the telegram to Lady Cameron. The message ran:— "Come to London by first train. Matter affecting your money very urgent. Bexfield."

"It is from your guardian, is it not, dear?" asked Mrs. Cameron.

"Yes," replied Wylva.

"You must go, dear. Prepare at once and go, and come back again. Promise me that you will do so."

"I shall be most happy to do so, Lady Cameron, this is a cruel disappointment."

"You must go and see what is wanted. It says, 'Very urgent.' Go, by all means. We will drive you to the station for the first train."

An hour later Malcolm Cameron held the hand of Wylva Merriman as he stood on the platform at the little station of Glenshiel, and she stood in the doorway of a compartment of an express going south.

"Come back soon, dear," he whispered. "Remember your promise. If you want help of any kind send for me. Au revoir!"

He pressed her hand fondly, and then raised it to his lips and kissed it. She blushed and a little smile came over her face. Her looks and smile were those of love. The engine shrieked. He kissed her hand again and closed the carriage door. The train slowly moved. She had gone.

He stood gazing in the direction of the receding train until the last fleck of steam had melted in the clear air. Then feeling that a strange and indescribable void had suddenly come into his life, he turned and walked slowly from the platform.

CHAPTER XIV.

Mr. Bexfield received a terribly indignant letter from Lord Kilkerne, informing him of the complete failure of their plans affecting Wylva, and of the way in which she had been forcibly carried off and of the ghastly outrage, as Lord Kilkerne termed it, to which he had been subjected in connection with the affair. Bexfield was mortified to learn of this. After thinking over the matter he decided that the best course for him would be to invite Lord Kilkerne to Westleigh House, and discuss the new situation with him. If, from what transpired when he met Lord Kilkerne, the projected marriage of Wylva with Lord Kilkerne seemed quite hopeless, then he, Bexfield, would pooh-pooh the whole affair and try to laugh him out of it as he might have tried to laugh anybody out of a passing fancy for a girl or into a bargain favourable to himself. He really cared little how the matter went. His speculation over it had turned out a success. Lord Kilkerne had taken the shares in the company and had allowed his name to be used in connection with it. Bexfield had gained twenty-five thousand pounds, and counted on gaining as much more throgh Lord Kilkerne's purchase of the shares. He was intensely annoyed that his plan for uniting Wylva with Lord Kilkerne had failed, not that he had any concern for Lord Kilkerne, but that he himself had been crossed by a mere girl over whom he had the authority of guardian. He had proposed and Wylva had disposed in a way which might have caused him monetary loss and inconvenience. So he invited Lord Kilkerne to Westleigh House, hoping thereby to smooth the matter over, and keep on friendly terms with one who might be of considerable service and profit to him.

They had been together in Mr. Bexfield's private room for half an hour talking over the failure of their plans respecting Wylva. At first Lord Kilkerne was able to control his feelings, but when he saw how lightly Mr. Bexfield treated the matter, he could no longer restrain himself.

"I tell you plainly you have swindled me. It has been a plot and I have been the victim of it," Lord Kilkerne said in a loud and excited manner.

"Oh come, come, that is unreasonable. You had a magnificent chance with the girl. If you have not been able to gain her consent to a marriage—well, you ought not to blame me," said Bexfield.

"You told me that you would influence her, and compel her to marry me, and I have proved that to be false. The whole transaction looks to me like a plot and a fraud. You are a sharper and have deceived and swindled me," Lord Kilkerne said, angrily.

Bexfield rose from his chair and stood with his feet wide apart and his hands behind. He could not prevent the scornful and defiant look appearing on his face, which reflected his feelings within. Lord Kilkerne noted the look, and it infuriated him.

"Where are my twenty-five thousand pounds, you scoundrel?" he stormed, as he rose from his chair and shook his fist in Mr. Bexfield's face.

"Sit down and compose yourself," said Bexfield, curtly.

"Where is my money?" demanded Lord Kilkerne, again.

"Why you are positively childish. Do you think I carry companies' funds in my waistcoat pocket? You know where the money is as well as I do."

"I know that you have defrauded me of that money by a foul and cruel trick, but I'll shake you, cur that you are. Take that."

Lord Kilkerne had sprung at Bexfield's throat. A loud stifling cry rang through the room. Bexfield fell backward to the floor, with Lord Kilkerne above him, still clutching his throat.

Another cry gurgling and choking rang through the place. Two minutes only of that mad, death grip and Mr. Bexfield would have been past human help.

Suddenly the room door was flung open. In an instant Lord Kilkerne's arms and wrists were gripped by strong hands, and he was dragged by main force from the prostrate form.

To be ready against contingencies Bexfield had instructed Millsome the butler and Radley the coachman to remain within hearing, and if there were any sign or sound of serious discord in the room, to enter without ceremony if need be. Startled by Bexfield's cry they had rushed in, just in time to save him.

Shaking himself free from the two men, Lord Kilkerne strode heavily from the room, and passed along the hall to the cloak room. Taking his hat he walked quickly back through the hall without speaking to a creature.

"Never mind him—let him go. I'm not badly hurt. Don't say a word about this to anyone, not a word," Bexfield gasped as Millsome and Radley assisted him to his feet.

"'I am all right. You can leave me; but remember not a word about this to a soul, not a word."

"Yes, sir," said the two men together, as they turned from their master and left the room.

Mr. Bexfield took Lord Kilkerne's scornful words and his attack upon him as a declaration that he had done with Wylva and himself once and for all. With this thought uppermost in his mind during the next few days Mr. Bexfield found it necessary to consider how he stood in relation to Wylva.

His first attempts to barter her to Lord Kilkerne had been a success from his own point of view. Lord Kilkerne, it was true, had not got Wylva, but he himself had got the money which was to be his own share of the transactions. The scene with Lord Kilkerne in the privacy of Westleigh House was a mere incident. Wylva was still free and she still had her money. She was a marriageable commodity. As the first attempt to sell her had paid him so well, why not try again? Bexfield asked himself this and decided that he would try again. As far as he could perceive, he stood to win much and not to lose anything by a second attempt. It would be a case of heads, he won; tails somebody else lost; and with him that was sound business. He determined that he would try boldly to trade her again. He knew that there was always a good marriage market in London for girls with money, if the terms were only reasonable.

An opportunity of offering her presented itself sooner than he expected.

Mr. Bexfield was sitting at his desk in his private office, looking over some letters which were ready for despatch by the night train when Mr. Simon Bingley, a well-known stock and share broker was announced. Mr. Bexfield gave instructions that Mr. Bingley should be shown into his office. A minute or two later Mr. Bingley, accompanied by a young man of about twenty-five entered the room.

"I knew you would be busy but I thought I would look in and see if you had done anything with those 'Solar Golds.' By the way do you know Mr. Branstein?" Mr. Bingley asked.

"By name well; but I have not had the pleasure of meeting him," said Mr. Bexfield rising.

"Oh well, let me introduce you. Mr. Karl Branstein, son of Mr. Rudolph, one of our largest operators, Mr. Bexfield."

Mr. Bexfield shook hands with Mr. Branstein, and then motioned to him to sit down.

"I am delighted to see you both. I have not done anything with the 'Solar Golds' yet. They will be all right. Anything new?"

Mr. Bexfield looked inquiringly at Mr. Branstein, and then at Mr. Bingley.

"Had a very busy day. Things have gone well," answered Mr. Bingley.

"That is good. Are you making a long stay in England, Mr. Branstein."

"No; I am off in a fortnight if all is well," was the answer.

"He is combining business with pleasure, or trying to," answered Bingley with a smile and a look which told that the business and the pleasure were of an unusual kind.

"Oh!" exclaimed Mr. Bexfield in an inquiring way.

"To tell you the truth, Bexfield, he is here to sell 'Kimberley First Gems' and to buy a London first gem, if he can find one good enough and take her back with him."

"Oh, that's the business is it? Well there will be no great difficulty about that," said Bexfield with a light laugh.

Mr. Branstein smiled and looked sheepish.

"There's a chance for you, Bexfield. If you know a pretty girl, well connected, who has a hundred thousand or so in her own right, Mr. Branstein will be glad to hear of her, and I daresay won't mind paying you liberally for the introduction—if business results," Mr. Bingley said, laughing.

Mr. Bexfield turned grave, and was silent for a moment.

"What is the matter? Have you stock of that kind on your books?"

"How would she do?" asked Bexfield pointing with the end of his pen to a cabinet photograph of Wylva Merriman, which stood in a light frame near the end of the mantel-piece.

"By Jove; that's a fine girl! Who is she?" Mr. Bingley asked.

"It is old Dudley Merriman's daughter. You knew him?"

"Of course I did. He left her a lot of money, didn't he?"

"Fair. Over a hundred thousand.'

"There you are Karl. The very thing. You'll not do better," said Mr. Bingley, handing the photo to Mr. Branstein, with a chuckle.

"She is a very fine girl," observed Mr. Branstein, still looking intently at the photograph.

"Is she free!" asked Mr. Bingley as an after-thought.

"Quite. I shall be very pleased to introduce Mr. Branstein to her." Mr. Bexfield said, with studied indifference.

"There you are. There's your chance. Make it a deal and give me an eighth for the introduction," said Mr. Bingley, laughing.

Half in fun, half in earnest, it was agreed that Mr. Bexfield should introduce Mr. Karl Branstein, son of the wealthy South African diamond merchant to Wylva Merriman.

From Mrs. Chambers at Oak Lodge Mr. Bexfield obtained the address of Doris Unsworth of Cledstow and from Doris he got the address of the Camerons of Glenshiel. Within ten minutes of receiving this address he despatched the telegram to Wylva which instructed her to come to London by first train, on account of urgent business.

CHAPTER XV.

At an early hour in the morning after her arrival in London from the North Wylva repaired to Mr. Bexfield's office to ascertain the nature of the business about which he wanted to see her. She dreaded meeting him as she naturally assumed that he would be harsh and unpleasant to her owing to her refusal to accede to his wishes in the matter of accepting Lord Kilkerne.

To her great surprise he received her most cordially and did not make a single allusion to Lord Kilkerne or to anything else that would be likely to jar on her feelings. He inquired particularly if she had been enjoying herself, and whether the Camerons had a large house and whether the scenery around was picturesque. Not a single remark which he had had any reference to her abduction and detention at Exton Lodge and as she had not heard Mr. Bexfield's name mentioned by anyone while she was at this Lodge she dissociated him from the events connected with her stay there, attributing them entirely to Lord Kilkerne. She had refrained from communicating with Mr. Bexfield in reference to these events owing to his wish that she should marry Lord Kilkerne. She shrank from holding any communication with him in which the name of Lord Kilkerne might appear. But as far as she knew, Mr. Bexfield was entirely ignorant of her abduction and detention at Exton Lodge.

Mr. Bexfield informed her that he had an opportunity of selling certain properties on terms which would yield a large profit, and that he had sent for her to lay the matter before her, and obtain her signature to certain papers if she concurred. He suggested that she should dine with him that evening at Westleigh House, and that they should talk the matter over.

To this, Wylva agreed and after some further conversation with Mr. Bexfield she took her departure intending to spend an hour or two in the city and then go to Westleigh. Bexfield was not due for nearly an hour, she went out to spend a little time in the garden and the conservatories. Mr. Bexfield spared no expense in maintaining his conservatories. His speculations had yielded him a large return, and, like other men of means, he spent his money freely. Besides, as he knew quite well, the outlay on his gardens was not wholly unproductive. Rarely did a week pass in which he did not bring someone from the city whom he wished to impress with his means and establishment.

On this particular evening Mr. Bexfield brought home with him Mr. Karl Branstein. Wylva was formally introduced to him, and a few minutes later found herself seated at dinner by Mr. Branstein's side.

She had no reason to suppose that Mr. Branstein's visit to Westleigh House had any connection with her own presence there, so she received the attentions which he paid her at dinner with pleasant and easy grace. She assumed that he was a gentleman and that, as such, he could do no other than pay her the usual attentions at table and she felt that it was her duty to accept them aggreably and gracefully. So dinner passed pleasantly, and without a suspicion of any kind crossing her mind

"Perhaps you will not mind showing Mr. Branstein the pictures, Wylva. I have to look up some papers, which will occupy me for some moments, I daresay he would like to see them," said Mr. Bexfield shortly after dinner.

"With pleasure if Mr. Branstein will allow me," said Wylva as he rose from his chair.

"I shall be delighted if Miss Merriman will do me the honour of conducting me there. We have a good collection of pictures at home, but I suppose it will not be comparable with what you have here," Mr. Branstein said, as he rose to join Wylva.

"Oh, well, I do not know about that. I have a few good examples of our modern English school. I have no doubt you will find them interesting," Mr. Bexfield said, as he led the way from the room.

(To be Continued.)

THE NEW METHOD.

An exceedingly "raw" police recruit proudly brought his first prisoner to the station.

"What is the charge?" asked the inspector.

"Attempted suicide," replied the officer.

"Oh," said the inspector, "what has been doing—trying to drown himself or shoot himself, or cut his throat?"

"No, sir," was the reply; "I caught the prisoner, who is a well-known bicycle thief running off with a road-racing motor-car."

MARVELLOUS CURES MADE BY RADIUM.

The discovery of radium which has already been fully described in our columns, created a furore of interest and astonishment; but this mysterious metal of wonderful and almost inexhaustive power has now caused scientists to view it with awe. At first radium was treated only as some new toy possessed of powers and peculiarities of great interest, but of little material profit. Now this view has been changed, and the metal is displaying new and useful powers with every step in its development.

It was found in the laboratories of thoroughly equipped chemists, and in the studies of not a few surgeons. Its ultimate service in many lines is doubted no longer.

SHORTENS LIST OF INCURABLE MALADIES.

There are men who affirm that radium eventually will cause a general revolution in surgery and medicine; that it will cure maladies now regarded as incurable; that, in fact this yellow atom, so insignificant in appearance eventually will prove one of the greatest boons to ailing mankind that ever was discovered.

At the Middlesex Hospital in London two cases of lupus are under treatment, by means of radio-activity—that subtle, imperceptible emission of sparks that goes on continuously without affecting any change or loss in the metal itself. "The progress in each case has been satisfactory," reports the hospital authorities, "but it is too early to predict a full and complete cure."

From Scotland, however, comes news of a case of lupus cured after four weeks' treatment by radium. The dreadful disfigurements formerly borne by the patient are said to have disappeared entirely.

BURNS OUT DISEASED TISSUES

In such operations the radium used is enclosed in a case, which in appearance may be compared to a pepper-grinding contrivance usually seen on the tables of French restaurants. At one end is a small glass dish, behind which a few sparks of radium may be discerned. This end is applied to the affected parts, and the rays, which fly off at the rate of light, or at the rapidity of 185,000 miles a second, penetrate the glass and eat into the flesh. The resultant wound requires a considerable time to heal—at times several months.

Surgeons are speculating as to the probability of radium affording a cure for the dread scourge of cancer. Two cases in Vienna were treated by local applications of radium and the disease is said to have disappeared under the treatment.

SIGHT RESTORED BY ITS USE.

Even more remarkable than these are the cures credited to a Russian scientist, Professor Lunden. It is claimed that by the application and use of radium he has restored sight to two blind boys. They were 11 and 13 years old, and had been blind since their first year. They were taken into a dark room where the treatment was given. A tube containing radium was held near their foreheads and eyes. At the same time an outline of familiar objects was thrown on a screen illuminated by radium. By associating the pictures with articles known through the sense of touch, the boys were able to recognise a number of articles. It is affirmed now that they have learned the Russian alphabet.

The potency of the rays is illustrated by other experiments conducted by the Russian professor. He bound the eyes of two persons tightly so that they could not see. Then he held radium within a few inches of the forehead, and, it is declared, the blindfolded persons were able to distinguish all the objects in a darkened room.

Ophthalmic surgeons are not satisfied as to the condition of the optic nerves of the blind person alleged to have been cured by the application of radium, but they do not deny the possibility of the metal bringing sight to the eyes of persons not born blind. Science has rarely touched the fringe of the possibilities in the new metal.

TRIED IN MANY ILLS.

Nasal troubles have been treated by small tubes containing radium, which are inserted in the nostrils. It has been used in cases of persistent neuralgia. It has destroyed the bacilli of typhoid, cholera and anthrax. It is said to be as potent to kill as to cure.

Scientists, doctors and chemists who handle radium do so with the greatest care. Sir William Crookes recently carried a small piece in his vest pocket, and upon going home stretched himself out for a nap. He was awakened by a severe burning pain in his side, and upon examination discovered that a minute quantity of radium had burned through his clothes, and had caused a severe blister on his side.

METAL'S VAGARIES WORK WONDERS.

There is, in short, no end to the vagaries and wonder-working effects of the metal. The scarcity and dearness of radium retards a more general research into its possibilities. At present it is sold in Germany at 8s. a milligramme. At this rate one pound of it, if such a quantity were obtainable, would cost over £200,000. It is announced however that a company has been promoted to extract the element from a great deposit of uranium ore in Grand County, Utah, United States of America.

Before purchasing a thermometer, the instrument should be tested by inverting it and allowing the mercury to fall to the end of the tube in a solid stick. If it separates into small columns the tube contains air, and will not register accurately.

CRIMES PREVENTED AND DISCOVERED BY DREAMS.

Many years ago at Holytown, a butcher had on a certain day to go to a neighbouring town to purchase cattle. A few nights previous to his setting out on his journey he dreamt that he was stopped at a particular point on the road by two men in blue clothes, and there murdered for the money he carried. He mentioned the dream to his wife, whose appreciation—or want of it—manifested itself in a laugh.

The dream, however, was repeated more than once, and finally the man determined to ride in the company of a neighbour, who was also going to the same town. When they arrived at the place pictured in the dream, two men, dressed in blue, were observed standing under the shelter of some trees. Seeing that the butcher was not alone, the men made off, and the inference is that a crime was thus prevented.

Another instance occurred in a family living in Scotland. A lady dreamt that her aunt had been murdered by a coloured man. So realistic was the vision, and so impressed was she with it, that in the morning she started by train for her relative's house. Her surprise may be better imagined than described when, on reaching the door, she was ushered in by the assassin of her dream. She informed the family of her fears and of the reason of her visit, and a strict watch was placed over the coloured servant.

One night the man was observed carrying a coal-scuttle of coals upstairs. He was accosted and interrogated. He replied that he was about to make up a fire in his mistress's room. On making inquiries it was ascertained that he had received no orders to do so. The coals were emptied out of the coal-scuttle, and hidden beneath them was a large knife, with which, the man confessed he had intended murdering the lady, in order to rob her.

A case of the perpetrator of a crime being discovered by similar agency occurred some years ago, also in Scotland. A pedlar had been found cruelly murdered in one of the country districts. No clue could be obtained which would afford a starting-point to the police in their investigations. The pack which had been carried by the murdered man was missing, and the vigilance of the authorities was expended in endeavouring to trace it and its contents. But their diligence was in vain.

Some days afterwards a man came forward and made a communication to the police to the effect that the pedlar's pack was buried in a certain spot. He had dreamt it. The authorities were cynical and suspicious. The man himself was arrested and charged with the crime, and although he emphatically asserted his innocence, yet the fact that the pack was found in the precise spot indicated seemed to warrant the police in their belief that he himself was the assassin. Eventually, however, the real murderer was run to earth, and he confessed his crime.

A German physician has related that a patient whom he was attending once told him that he dreamt that certain men were in the act of robbing his hop-garden. When he awoke he assured himself that it was only a dream, and composed himself again for sleep. The same vision again disturbed him, and again he dismissed it as being ridiculous. The third time however, a voice seemed to tell him that if he neglected the warning he would lose the bulk of his produce. He therefore, arose, dressed and descended into the garden, and arrived in time to see the thieves leaving the ground loaded with sacks of hops.

Another gentleman relates a startling episode which happened to him. At the time he was in indifferent health, and his physician had written him a prescription for some tonic medicine, which had from time to time been dispensed at a certain chemist's. He had the medicine prepared as usual one night, but not requiring a dose until the following morning, he retired to rest, having placed the bottle upon the dressing-table.

During the night he dreamt that some fearful calamity was impending "and," said he, "I seemed to hear, but not with the outward ear, a beautiful prayer. It was not myself that prayed—the prayer was far beyond anything I was capable of composing. The voice supplicated that, for the sake of my widowed mother, the calamity might be averted." When he awoke in the morning the whole was present to his mind, but he felt that some mitigation of the impending evil had taken place.

Shortly he prepared to take his medicine, but he noticed that the colour was slightly different from what it had usually been, and after hesitating in doubt, he took one tablespoonful instead of two as ordered. The dose made him ill, and afterwards it was discovered that the chemist had made a mistake in dispensing the medicine, having inadvertently substituted a poisonous for a comparatively inert drug. Had he taken the prescribed quantity, he would have been poisoned.

Sometimes it has happened that a dream had taken a twofold form, first giving a warning which, if acted upon, would have prevented the crime, and second, has communicated the intelligence which has led to the detection of the criminal.

It is related that two Arcadians travelled together to Megara. On their arrival at their destination the friend with whom they had intended staying, having company already, was only able to accomodate one of them with sleeping room. The other put up at the village inn. During the night the former dreamt that his friend appeared to him and implored him to render speedy assistance, as the landlord of the hotel was about to murder him for his money. The friend reflecting that it "was only a dream," neglected the summons.

Shortly the friend appeared once more, this time covered with blood and disfigured with wounds, and entreated the sleeper that since he had not rendered him any help, he would at all events avenge his death. He said that his villainous host had killed him, and was about to secrete his body in a cart, preparatory to conveying it out of the neighbourhood. In great alarm his friend arose and went to the inn, when he saw a cart identical with that which his companion had described, and on making search, the body of the murdered man was found in it, covered beneath some refuse.'

THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

The most interesting and vital portion of Russia's great 4,000-mile railway is the steam ferry across Lake Baikal, in Central Siberia.

The lake has an extent of over 13,000 square miles, and is more than twice as wide as the English Channel. In places it is as deep as 4,500ft., and parts of it have never been plumbed. It is surrounded by some of the hardest mountains which a railway engineer could encounter.

The official plan of the Trans-Siberian railway includes a railway round the southern end of the lake, but this is at present unfinished. To link the two ends with a steam ferry which would be able to break the ice that covers the lake from the middle of December to May was no doubt suggested by the excellence of the "Yermak" ice-breaker of the Baltic.

The large ice-breaker christened the "Baikal," was constructed in England and put together on the lake. The "Baikal" has three lines of rails laid upon her main deck, to carry one passenger and two goods trains across the lake. The trains enter the ice-breaker at the bow, which is run up against a pier. The rails are connected, and the train runs on to the vessel. With this load of three trains, she will crush her way through three feet of ice at a speed of thirteen knots an hour.

A screw at the bow, with a separate engine, sucks away the water from underneath the ice, which then splits from its own weight; the two stubby-bladed propellers at the stern, at the same time force the vessel through the broken ice sheet.

The actual track of the "Baikal" measures 39 miles. There is a harbour and lighthouse at the south-eastern end of the lake, but there is no dock where the "Baikal" could be repaired in case of need.

At the present, therefore, Russia's 4,000-mile railway is absolutely dependent for a through journey on the reliability of a British ferry.

The Manchurian railway is better built than many other parts of the Trans-Siberian railway.

All governments such as the Russian love a desplay of architecture, and doubtless the money spent at stations is not wholly for the comfort of the passengers. There is a grandiose-looking post-office at Vladivostock, which no doubt is somewhat in excess of the present needs of that town.

JAPANESE HEROISM.

In the semi-historical legends of ancient Japan a story is told that a 'daimio' or prince, was sorely oppressed in battle, with some 2000 surviving followers, every man of them a member of the stanch, brave, old samaurai, (the fighting men of Japan).

The prince found his command decimated, and forced back to the edge of a steep cliff. The boulder-strewn gully lay several hundred feet below. The victorious army, expecting certain surrender, sent forward emissaries to arrange for the capitulation. The 'diamio' gave the quiet answer that surrender was out of the question.

With his thin little force backed against the cliff, this fine old prince waited until he saw the enemy moving forward with a strength of numbers that he knew could not be resisted. Then he stepped through the broken ranks, looked down into the gully below, and shouted:

"FOLLOW ME!"

Down along the ranks the order was repeated. A few moments later the 'daimio' leaped over the cliff and went to instant death. Before his body had struck the rocks below, hundreds more of his men were in the air. Within a few seconds the last man of the command was on his way to death. Not one had stopped to question the order. It was a command, and that was all there was to be said. Such instant obedience sprang from the calmness that was induced by the good-nature instilled into 'samurai' students by 'jiu-jitsu' instructors.

The bravery that is, in most men, inseparable from the conscious possession of strength, aided by the suicide that saved an army from disgrace. The whitening bones of the men who followed their prince were allowed to remain undisturbed until they had crumbled and mingled with the earth.

It was a gruesome, but splendid monument to the calm bravery of a race that has made good-nature an art to be preserved through all the centuries to the present day.

Curious ceremonies are witnessed in Siam when one of the sacred white elephants die. It is given a funeral grander than that accorded to princes of Royal blood. Buddhist priests officiate, and thousands of devout Siamese men and women follow the deceased animal to the grave Jewels and offerings representing some thousands of pounds are buried with the elephant.

There are few paupers in Holland. A tract of public land containing 5,000 acres is divided into six model farms, to one of which the person applying for public relief is sent. Here he is taught agriculture, and is subsequently permitted to rent a small farm for himself. Holland has also a forced labour colony, where vagrants are sent to do farm and other work, whether they like it or not.

A PIG IN A POTATO FIELD.

A farmer was greatly annoyed by his neighbour's pig getting into his potato field and harvesting on his own account. Whenever he drove the aggressor out he was forced to lay down a panel of the fence, as bacon in the conscious state is always careful never to betray the place where it enters a bonanza by going out there, unless he is very hard pressed by dogs. The farmer had diligently searched for a defect in the fence, but failed to find one where the pig could by any possibility enter; so he concluded to watch and soon had the satisfaction of seeing the thief enter the end of a crooked, hollow log, which made a part of the fence, one end being in his field, and one in that of his neighbour. After driving the burglar out, he changed the position of the log, so that both ends were in his neighbour's field and concluded to watch the result. Soon the pig came along and went through the log, as usual, but upon searching for potatoes he found only pasture grass, and after some little delay he seemed to arrive at the conclusion that he had not gone through the log at all, so he went through again and upon emerging into the pasture field, seemed more mystified than ever, but after a more protracted search for the potatoes than ever before he seemed to conclude that owing to some blunder of his own he had not really gone through the log, so in he went again and out into the pasture field; but this time he stood still as a statue for about half a minute, and slowly the bristles began to stand erect on his back, and with two or three tremendous sniffs he set off at the top of his speed for the house of his owner and never afterwards could be induced to approach that part of the pasture field.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Berlin has 25,769 cellars inhabited by human beings.

Monday is the favourite day for committing suicide.

There are no poor-houses in Servia Even the poorest people own property.

The population of Ireland, which, some fifty years ago, was over 8,000,000, is now less than 4,500,000

Australia has 62,000 square miles of coal-bearing land in the eastern portion of the country.

Cremation is on the increase in Germany. Last year 861 persons were cremated—an excess of 200 over the previous year.

The most thickly populated island in the world is Malta, which has 1,360 people to the square mile. Barbados has 1,054 people to the square mile.

When a young woman of the Philippines marries, her husband's name is added to her maiden name. If she becomes a widow, the husband's name is discarded.

Only one-third of the world's population use bread as a daily article of food. Nearly one-half of the people of the world subsist chiefly on rice.

The fish-hooks used to-day are precisely the same form as those of two thousand years ago. The difference is in the material; then, they were made of bronze, now they are of steel.

The oldest building in the world that has been uninterruptedly used for church purposes is St. Martin's Cathedral at Canterbury. The building was originally erected for a church, and has been regularly used as a place of religious gatherings for more than 1,500 years.

Recent experiments in France have shown that the yellow and green colours of the silk spun by certain silkworms are due to colouring matter derived from the food and passed through the blood of the spinners. By impregnating leaves with artificial colours the experiments caused some species of silkworms to produce silk of bright orange-yellow and fine rose hues.

In the forests of Central India a tree has recently been discovered which has most curious characteristics. The leaves of the tree are of a highly censitive nature, and so full of electricity, that any person who touches one of them receives an electric shock. It has a very singular effect upon a magnetic needle, and it will influence it at a distance of even 70ft. The electral strength of the tree varies according to the time of the day, being strongest at mid-day, and weaker at mid-night. In wet weather its powers disappear altogether. Birds and insects never approach it.

The Empire of Korea, which is in the position of a nut between a hammer and a anvil, possesses an army; but, though the inhabitants of the Hermit Kingdom number some thirteen millions, the army consists only of a normal ten thousand militiamen who, although their younger officers have been instructed by Japanese, are of no value as soldiers. The artillery possesses eighteen guns, of which six are mounted in forts, six are field guns, and six are mountain guns. In addition the Korean Government last September ordered six field guns in Japan, and four field-guns and eight Maxims in England. The cavalry consists of one hundred and fifty more or less mounted men, and the navy of an old merchant vessel, armed with eight guns, which the Koreans bought of Japan last April. On the whole, though it is the bone of contention between the two great Powers, Korea has, perhaps, acted wisely in deciding to remain neutral.

1408.

GRENVILLE.
Number of Electors—
Charles McGrath, Sebastopo
Charles Hamilton, Learmou
and Solicitor (S.M.)
David Kerr, Buninyong, M
McGrath ... ...
Hamilton ... ...
Kerr... ... ...

KARA KARA.
Number of Electors—
Daniel Joseph Duggan,
Commission Agent, (O)*
Peter McBride, St. Arnaud
(S.M.)
McBride ... ...
Duggan ... ...

MARYBOROUGH
Number of Electors—
Thomas Carthew Miners, M
Auctioneer (S.M.)
George Mitchell, Talbot, Sto
Alfred Richard Outtrim, M
Auctioneer (L.)
Outtrim ... ...
Miners... ... ...
Mitchell ... ...

MORNINGTON.
Number of Electors—
Alfred Downward, Morning
(S.M.)
Thomas Stephen Leo O'Reilly
Hotelkeeper (L.)
Downward ... ...
O'Reilly ... ...

OVENS.
Number of Electors—
Alfred Arthur Bilson,
Brewer (O.)
John Fletcher, Beechworth,
(S.M.)
Bilson ... ...
Fletcher ... ...

PORT FAIRY.
Number of Electors—
James Francis Duffus, K
keeper (S.M.)*
Patrick William McGrath,
Secretary (L.)
Duffus ... ...
McGrath ... ...

RODNEY.
Number of Electors—
Samuel Lancaster (S.M.)*
Hugh McKenzie, Stock
Agent, Echuca (O.)*
McKenzie ... ...
Lancaster ... ...

STAWELL AND AR
Number of Electors—
Hugh Menzies, Stawell (S.
Richard F. Toutcher,
Broker (O.)*
Toutcher ... ...
Menzies ... ...

SWAN HILL.
Number of Electors—
John Lamont Dow, St. K
nalist (M.)
Elish Clement De Garis
Auctioneer (M.)
John Gray, Swan Hill, Auc
James Meldrum, Rosebery,
(S.M.)*
Gray ... ...
Meldrum ... ...
De Garis ... ...
Dow ... ...

UPPER GOULBU
Number of Electors—
James Howlin Graves,
Grazier (M.)*
James Hoare, Merton, Graz
Thomas Hunt, Kilmore,
(M.)*
M. K. McKenzie, Reedy Cr
(M.)
Hunt ... ...
McKenzie ... ...
Graves ... ...
Hoare ... ...

WALHALLA.
Number of Electors—2
Patrick Francis Hannan
Miner (L.)
Albert Harris, Walhalla,
(S.M.)*
Harris ... ..
Hannan ... ...

WANGARATTA.
Number of Electors—3
John Bowser, Wangaratta
(S.M.)*
Allan K. Buckley, Ruthe
Secretary (O.)
Bowser ... ...
Buckley ... ...

WARANGA.
Number of Electors—3
James Belton, Puanjip, Fa
John Walter Mason,
Farmer (S.M.)
John Morrissey, Byrneside,
Morrissey ... ...
Mason ... ...
Belton ... ...

METROPOLITAN ELECT

ALBERT PARK
Number of Electors—4
George Alexander Elmslie,
(L.)*
John Samuel White, Contra
Elmslie ... ...
White ... ...

BOROONDARA.
Number of Electors—
William Gaunson, Estate A
Alfred George Lumsden,
Publisher (O.)
Frank Madden, Solicitor (S
Madden ... ...
Lumsden ... ...
Gannson ... ...

BRIGHTON.
Number of Electors—
Thomas Bent, Brighton, V
Marshall Lyle, Melbourne,
Bent ... ...
Lyle ... ...

BRUNSWICK
Number of Electors—4
Frank Anstey, Laborer (L.
David Methven, Contractor
Anstey ... ...
Methven ... ...

CARLTON.
Number of Electors—4
Frederick Hodgkinson Brou
(L.)
David Valentine Hennes
(M.)
Bromley ... ...
Hennessey ... ...

COLLINGWOOD
Number of Electors—4
Ralph Clemenger, Traveller
Edgar Wilkins, Meat Sales
Wilkins ... ...
Clemenger ... ...

GRENVILLE.

Number of Electors—3914.
Charles McGrath, Sebastopol, Miner (L.)
Charles Hamilton, Learmouth, Barrister and Solicitor (S.M.)
David Kerr, Buninyong, Merchant (O.)
McGrath 1268
Hamilton 784
Kerr... 673

KARA KARA.

Number of Electors—3403.
Daniel Joseph Duggan, Tarnagulla, Commission Agent, (O)*
Peter McBride, St. Arnaud, Merchant (S.M.)
McBride 1803
Duggan 1196

MARYBOROUGH.

Number of Electors—4233.
Thomas Carthew Miners, Maryborough, Auctioneer (S.M.)
George Mitchell, Talbot, Storekeeper (O).
Alfred Richard Outtrim, Maryborough, Auctioneer (L.)
Outtrim 1262
Miners... 942
Mitchell 987

MORNINGTON.

Number of Electors—4227.
Alfred Downward, Mornington, Grazier (S.M.)
Thomas Stephen Leo O'Reilly, Hastings, Hotelkeeper (L.)
Downward 1353
O'Reilly 641

OVENS.

Number of Electors—3328.
Alfred Arthur Bilson, Beechworth, Brewer (O.)
John Fletcher, Beechworth, Bookseller (S.M.)
Bilson 1387
Fletcher 1141

PORT FAIRY.

Number of Electors—3778.
James Francis Duffus, Koroit, hotelkeeper (S.M.)*
Patrick William McGrath, Collingwood, Secretary (L.)
Duffus 1528
McGrath 1087

RODNEY.

Number of Electors—3859.
Samuel Lancaster (S.M.)*
Hugh McKenzie, Stock and Station Agent, Echuca (O.)*
McKenzie 1387
Lancaster 1304

STAWELL AND ARARAT.

Number of Electors—3639.
Hugh Menzies, Stawell (S.M.)*
Richard F. Toutcher, Elsternwick, Broker (O.)*
Toutcher 1040
Menzies 892

SWAN HILL.

Number of Electors—3255.
John Lamont Dow, St. Kilda, Journalist (M.)
Elish Clement De Garis, Mildura, Auctioneer (M.)
John Gray, Swan Hill, Auctioneer.
James Meldrum, Rosebery, Storekeeper (S.M.)*
Gray 692
Meldrum 493
De Garis 262
Dow 257

UPPER GOULBURN.

Number of Electors—3805.
James Howlin Graves, Hawksburn, Grazier (M.)*
James Hoare, Merton, Grazier (I.)
Thomas Hunt, Kilmore, Journalist (M.)*
M. K. McKenzie, Reedy Creek, Grazier (M.)
Hunt... 894
McKenzie 863
Graves 465
Hoare 225

WALHALLA.

Number of Electors—2810.
Patrick Francis Hannan, Walhalla, Miner (L.)
Albert Harris, Walhalla, Merchant (S.M.)*
Harris 950
Hannan 366

WANGARATTA.

Number of Electors—3746.
John Bowser, Wangaratta, Journalist (S.M.)*
Allan K. Buckley, Rutherglen, Shire Secretary (O.)
Bowser 1620
Buckley 1045

WARANGA.

Number of Electors—3351.
James Belton, Puanjip, Farmer (L.)
John Walter Mason, Rushworth, Farmer (S.M.)
John Morrissey, Byrneside, Grazier (O).*
Morrissey 1085
Mason 896
Belton 312

METROPOLITAN ELECTORATES.

ALBERT PARK.

Number of Electors—4981.
George Alexander Elmslie, Stone-cutter (L.)*
John Samuel White, Contractor (S.M.)
Elmslie 1956
White 1487

BOROONDARA.

Number of Electors—5004.
William Gaunson, Estate Agent (L.)
Alfred George Lumsden, Printer and Publisher (O.)
Frank Madden, Solicitor (S.M.)*
Madden 1451
Lumsden 1269
Gaunson 31

BRIGHTON.

Number of Electors—3575.
Thomas Bent, Brighton, Valuer (S.M.)*
Marshall Lyle, Melbourne, Solicitor (L.)
Bent 1702
Lyle 373

BRUNSWICK

Number of Electors—4780.
Frank Anstey, Laborer (L.)
David Methven, Contractor (S.M.)
Anstey 1578
Methven 1328

CARLTON.

Number of Electors—4621.
Frederick Hodgkinson Bromley, Artist (L.)
David Valentine Hennessy, Investor (M.)
Bromley 1547
Hennessey 1378

COLLINGWOOD.

Number of Electors—4570.
Ralph Ciemenger, Traveller (O.)
Edgar Wilkins, Meat Salesman (L.)
Wilkins 1703
Clemenger 924

EAST MELBOURNE.

Number of Electors—4524.
James Andrew Sinclair Brown, Agricultural Machine Maker (L.)
Sir Samuel Gillott, Solicitor (S.M.)
Gillott 1628
Brown 420

ESSENDON.

Number of Electors—5180.
Edward Elliott Roberts, Manager (O.)
Henry Watson, Painter (L.)
William Anderson Watt, Hay Salesman (S.M.)
Watt 1275
Watson 928
Roberts 461

FITZROY.

Number of Electors—4625.
John W. Billson, Secretary (L.)
Robert Barr, Accountant (S.M.)
James Grigg, Auctioneer (I.)
Billson 1507
Barr 916
Grigg 449

FLEMINGTON.

Number of Electors—4724.
Edward Coghlan Warde, Wood-turner (L.)
Alexander McDonald, Builder and Carpenter (O.)
Warde 1242
McDonald 1099

HAWTHORN.

Number of Electors—5733.
James Marmaduke Rose, Physician and Surgeon (L.)
George Swinburne, surveyor, engineer (S.M.)
Swinburne 2361
Rose 1045

JIKA JIKA.

Number of Electors—4636.
Henry Beard, Bricklayer (L.)
Thomas Griffen, gentleman (O.)
James George Membrey, valuer (S.M.)
Beard 1183
Membrey 1149
Griffen 217

MELBOURNE.

Number of Electors—5794.
James Arthur Boyd, Warehouseman (S.M.)
Thomas Tunnecliffe, bootmaker (L.)
Boyd... 1831
Tunnecliffe 1291

NORTH MELBOURNE.

Number of Electors—5171.
James Henry Gardiner, Manufacturer (S.M.)
George Michael Prendergast, Traveller, (L.)
Prendergast 1824
Gardiner 1306

PORT MELBOURNE.

Number of Electors—5317.
George Sangster, Enginedriver (L.)
Thomas Smith, Hatter (L.)
Sangster 3013
Smith 2161

PRAHRAN.

Number of Electors—4964.
Joseph Harris, Journalist (S.M.)
Donald Mackinnon, Barrister (O.)
Edward John Russell, Estate Agent (L.)
McKinnon 1182
Harris 1132
Russell 937

RICHMOND.

Number of Electors—5252.
George Henry Bennett, Manufacturer (O).
George Ernest Roberts, Wig Maker (O).
Bennett 1777
Roberts 1490

ST. KILDA.

Number of Electors—4997.
Robert George McCutcheon, Publisher (S.M.)
Alex. Sloan McKenzie, Engraver (L.)
McCutcheon... ... 1641
McKenzie 1099

TOORAK.

Number of Electors—4851.
George Fairbairn, Pastoralist (S.M.)
Lodis William Holmes, Ironmonger (O.)
Fairbairn 1940
Holmes 1795

WILLIAMSTOWN.

Number of Electors—5695.
Alexander Gordon Culbert Ramsay, Commercial Traveller (O.)
John Lemmon, Cutter (L.)
James Hall, Solicitor (S.M.)
Lemmon 1415
Ramsay 1186
Hall 701

PUBLIC SERVICE (1).

Number of Electors—3901.
Frederick Murdoch Bradhurst, Creswick, State School Teacher.
John Thomas Law, 5 Marlton Crescent, St. Kilda, State School Teacher (O.)
David Gaunson, 58 Canterbury road, Albert Park, Barrister and Solicitor (L).
Gaunson 2202
Law 805
Bradhurst 311
Wollaston 13

THE STATE SERVICE.
(One seat.)

Number of Electors—5708.
Frederick William Dawborn, Bayswater, State School Teacher.
William Job Evans, Ferrars street, Albert Park, Secretary.
Robert George Kent, 100 Caroline street, South Yarra, Gentleman.
Evans 2336
Kent... 758
Dawborn 587

RAILWAY SERVICE (2).

Number of Electors—6306.
Stephen Byrne, 19 Verden street, Williamstown, Railway Employe (O.)
Alfred Oscar Capell, 185 Mair street, Ballarat, Relieving Stationmaster (L).
Thomas Richard Cooke, Little River, Ganger (L.)
David Henry Falconer, Malvern, Clerk (O.)
Martin Hannah, Barclay street, Brunswick, Bricklayer (L.)
Percy Leigh Harvey, 163 Richardson street, Middle Park, Pier Master, (O.)
Albert Thomas Smith, 48 Park street, Abbotsford, ex-Railway Employe (L.)
Robert Henry Solly, 9 Bowen street, Richmond, Bootmaker (L.)
William Henry Welch, Bendigo, Locomotive Enginedriver (L.)
Walter Frederick Williams, 6 Survey street, Burnley, Legal Manager (L.)
Solly 667
Hannah 588
Williams 280
Byrne... 109
Smith 87
Capell 68
Falconer 68
Cook 22
The last five men lose their deposits.

Beaufort Warden's Court.

THURSDAY, 2ND JUNE, 1904.
(Before Warden H. M. Murphy).

James Cuthbertson applied to have the lease known as the Sons of Freedom Extended Company, Raglan, declared void, on the grounds that the company had not complied with the labor covenant. Mr S. Young appeared for the Central and Extended Companies, and Mr W. T. Gill for the applicant.

At the outset Mr Gill contended that counsel could not appear for any party unless represented. Mr Young could not appear for two parties. The defendant companies were unregistered transferees.

Mr Young then elected to appear for the Extended Company, and claimed the privilege of dealing with the business of the Central Company.

Mr Gill said the lease was granted to the Extended Company on 1st July, 1901, the area being 47a. 2r. 17p., and the rent £4 17s 6d per annum, payable half-yearly. The labor clause set forth that the company were to employ 6 able and competent miners for the first 6 months, and not less than 18 afterwards. The Extended claim had been abandoned 16 months ago, and the plant had been sold piecemeal. During that time the land had been absolutely vacant. Mr Sutcliffe was the original leaseholder, but the lease was issued to the Extended Company. Subsequently the ground was worked by tributors. On 26th May the applicant had visited the Mines Department in Melbourne, and could find no trace of any transference from the Extended Company. The Central Company had no right to work the ground till they got the authority from the Minister of Mines.

James Cuthbertson deposed that he knew the ground, and had often been over it. The lease was issued in 1901, and the ground was taken up to work the Sons of Freedom lead. Work had ceased about 12 months last Christmas. When the company closed up there was a steam winch and steam puddler on the lease. No work was being done on the lease. There had been no men at all at work on the lease for the past 16 months. If the lease were granted to him he was prepared to go to work at once, and expend £500.

To Mr Young—He had been on the ground about 20 times in 16 months. It was possible that work was being carried on on the lease without his knowledge. The sinking was about 150 or 160 feet. With a co-operative party £500 would go a long way. He would deny that any work was being done on the surface, but could not say anything about below. There were an old boiler and a whim on the lease, but he did not consider they were machinery.

James Grant deposed that he knew the ground all his life, and had been over it frequently. Part of the lease was scrub country. There was no sign of any work going on on the lease, and it was about 16 or 17 months since any work had been done on the lease—since the Extended Company ceased operations. The Extended plant was sold piecemeal and all that remained of it was an old boiler and a whim. He knew nothing about the underground workings, as he was never down below. The tributors could not make the claim pay.

To Mr Young—The Central shaft was about 600 or 700 feet from the Extended Company's lease. It was quite possible that work could be going on without his knowledge.

Mr Young said the lease was granted on 1st July, 1901, to the Extended Co. The labor covenant stipulated that from 6 to 18 men were to be employed. There were 50 men being employed. Later on the claim was let on tribute, and afterwards was sold to the Central Company. The tributors gave it up because they could not make it pay. On 26th October, 1903, the company obtained a license, and authority to transfer from the Governor-in-Council. The transfer was effected on 7th January, 1904. The original lease, in the name of the Sons of Freedom Extended, had been lost. This had been found out when steps were being taken to transfer the lease. Owing to the loss of the lease the transference had been hung up ever since. The Central Company had put a reef drive through the Extended lease, and had done a lot of work below. The Central shaft was in a splendid position to work the ground, and men were working there that day.

Josiah Skewes, mining manager of the Sons of Freedom Central mine, deposed that the Central shaft was about 1000 feet from the Extended boundary. Work was now going on below in the Extended lease, about 65 men being employed. There were 71 men employed by the Central Company. The machinery was powerful enough to work the Extended ground, and they had no trouble with the water. £500 would be sufficient to sink a shaft. They had reached the Extended boundary about 12 months ago, and were driving at about 150 feet from the surface. They had stopped operations till the transfer was obtained on January 7th, 1904. Several drives had been put in on the Extended lease. Only a prospecting drive was being put in now. Could not say how long they intended to work the ground.

James Henderson, chairman of directors of the Sons of Freedom Central Co., deposed that the Extended lease had been purchased by the Central for £100 about six months ago. The Central Company were in a position to work the ground, and had put a reef drive right into it. They could work it for thousands of feet. There was a good stream of water coming from the Extended ground, which was being drained. The Central Company were in a sound financial position, having paid 17s per share in dividends.

This concluded the evidence, and the Warden said he would forward his recommendation to the Minister in the usual way, copies of which would be forwarded to those interested.

Bonnington's Irish Moss
Whooping Cough Croup.
Bronchial Affections
LUNG DISEASES

Mining News.

All Nations Consols, Beaufort.—D. F. Troy and party's No. 1 tribute—Panelling out north-west end, with good results. Yield, 36oz. 16dwt. Grant and party's No. 2 tribute—Worked but all payable ground in No. 1 shaft. Now boring, preparatory to sinking. Yield, 10oz. Adamthwaite and party's No. 3 tribute—Driving and crosscutting in south end, with poor results. Morris and party's No. 4 tribute—Fencing in land, preparatory to sinking. Full yield, 46oz. 16dwt.

Barton Quartz Co.—Shaft sunk 7ft., making the depth below No. 1 level 52ft.; ground hard. Water just the same, 300 gallons per hour.

Sam Slick Co.—Jaensch and party—Driven south to 10ft.; crosscuts driven east and west, in payable dirt. Yield, 23oz. 0dwt. 18gr.

DOES FARMING PAY
WITH OATS AT 1s. PER BUSHEL?

WE SAY YES.
With Cuming, Smith & Co's. Manures you can get 60 bushels to the acre.
It's the Quantity that Pays.

IT OCCURS TO US THAT

This is a good opportunity to mark our DRAPERY STOCK, at Prices that will be SO LOW that they will pay on account of the QUANTITY we sell.

VASTNESS. VARIETY. VALUE.

Describes our Splendid DRAPERY STOCK of
Dresses, Millinery, and Mantles,
CLOTHING, BOOTS, &c., &c.
A splendid lot of LADIES' AND GENT'S. MACKINTOSHES have just arrived direct from the makers.
They are marked at exceedingly Low Prices, and are selling themselves.

Always Yours for Serviceable Goods. It's the Quantity that Pays.

J. R. WOTHERSPOON & CO.,
THE UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS,
BEAUFORT AND BUANGOR.

Sons of Freedom Central.—Blocking and truck-roading in Nos. 4 and 5 rises, in ground of average quality. Yield for week, 102oz. 13dwt.

Sons of Freedom Junction, Raglan.—Brick piers for pumping engine completed; plunger blocks and pinion in position; have been delayed this week through wet weather.

Daughters of Freedom, Main Lead.—Yield for week, 11oz. 15dwt.

The following are the reported local yields for the week ending Saturday last:—Sons of Freedom Central, 102oz. 7dwt.; All Nations Consols—Troy and party's No. 1 tribute, 36oz. 9dwt.; Adamthwaite and party's No. 3 tribute, 26oz. 17dwt.; Grant and party's No. 2 tribute, 3oz. 3dwt.; Sam Slick—Jaensch and party, No. 1 tribute, 26oz. 15dwt.; Daughters of Freedom, 10oz. 19dwt.; Last Chance, 7oz. 15dwt.; Martin and party, 9oz. 6dwt. 15gr.; sundries, 11oz.

Hampden Election.

TO THE ELECTORS.

GENTLEMEN,—

I DESIRE to tender my sincere THANKS to you for the generous support accorded me at the recent Election. It shall be my earnest endeavour to faithfully carry out the duties pertaining to the position.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient Servant,
D. S. OMAN.

Derrinallum, 2/6/04.

E. R.

Mining Lease Declared Void.

ARARAT DISTRICT, RAGLAN DIVISION.—No. 1816; G. Peel; 393 acres, parishes Beaufort, Livingstone, Brewster, and Trawalla.

W. R. ANDERSON,
Secretary for Mines.

Melbourne, 26th May, 1904.

Electoral District of Hampden.

DECLARATION OF THE POLL.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that in pursuance of a writ under the hand of His Excellency the Governor of the State of Victoria, dated the 16th day of May, 1904, for the Election of One Member to serve in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Victoria for the Electoral District of Hampden, a Poll was taken on the 1st day of June, 1904, and that the number of votes recorded for each candidate is as follows:—

Polling Places.	Ashworth.	Oman.
Beaufort Division—		
Beaufort	65	214
Raglan	17	76
Waterloo (within division)	18	56
Stockyard Hill ...	19	21
Skipton (within division)	10	38
Chepstowe	1	8
Snake Valley	32	108
Lintons	52	95
Camperdown Division—		
Camperdown	134	831
Strathvean (Cressy) ...	4	9
Lismore	11	67
Skipton (within division)	17	60
Terang	165	171
Naroghid	5	13
Noorat	81	65
Darlington (within division)	9	7
Mortlake Division—		
Mortlake	86	132
Darlington (within division)	18	11
Ballangeich	12	28
Hexham West ...	15	8
East Keilambete ...	29	22
Woorndoo	15	21
East Framlingham ...	32	16
Wickliffe Division—		
Wickliffe	7	19
Junction Wickliffe and Hamilton Roads ...	12	62
Bunnugal	4	1
Lake Bolac	12	21
Streatham	10	3
Ktora	7	2
Watgania	6	3
Tatyoon	16	9
Ross's Bridge	8	16
Ballyrogan	7	2
Postal Ballot Papers ...	14	17
Totals	950	1725

Majority for Oman—775.

I now therefore do hereby declare DAVID SWAN OMAN duly ELECTED a Member of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Victoria to represent the Electoral District of Hampden.

Given under my hand at Beaufort the 2nd day of June, 1904.

THOS. A. ODDIE, Returning Officer for the Electoral District of Hampden.

NOTICE TO FARMERS.

DIXON BROS.,
Stock, Station, Grain and Commission Agents, Valuators, and Export Produce Merchants,
Wish to notify the farmers of the surrounding district that they have leased the premises lately occupied by Mr. J. Cuthbertson as Steam Chaff Mills,
OPPOSITE CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.

MONTHLY STOCK SALES
WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THEIR AUCTIONEER, MR. W. H. HALPIN, EVERY THIRD THURSDAY. SIXTH SALE, THURSDAY, JUNE 16th, 1904.
Good yarding advised.
Sales Conducted in any part of the State. Entries received by Mr. R. G. KIRKPATRICK, Local Agent, or Mr. Hill, Camp Hotel.
For PRIVATE SALE, Single-seated ABBOTT BUGGY, two WAGGONETTES, and a second hand DOUBLE AND TREBLE FURROW PLOUGH. Several FARMS in GEELONG district for SALE or LEASE.
Horse Rugs, Tarpaulins, Water Bags, and Coach Buggy Rugs a speciality.
Agents for Mitchell's Agricultural Implements, Wood's New Century Binder, also agents for the famous Barger Discs.

DIXON BROS., Lawrence Street, BEAUFORT.

Beaufort Brass Band.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above will be held in the MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, on WEDNESDAY, 8th inst., at 8 p.m.
Business—To receive and adopt Balance-Sheet; Election of Officers; general.
Honorary Members invited to attend.

C. W. JONES, Hon. Secy.

Beaufort, June 2nd, 1904.

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT. Apply to MRS. A. PARKER, Beaufort.

FOR SALE, WOOLPRESS (Humble & Nicholson), in first-class order. Apply to A. MATHEWSON, Manager, Mooramong, Skipton.

L. BRAVO,
Hairdresser and Tobacconist
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT,
Begs to notify the public of Beaufort and district that he has commenced Business, and hopes by strict attention to business to receive a fair share of public patronage.
SHAVING, 3d.; HAIRCUTTING, 6d.
CHILDREN, 3d.
A Good Assortment of PIPES, TOBACCO, and CIGARS kept in Stock.
A trial solicited. Satisfaction guaranteed.

LAND SELECTION
BEAUFORT COMMON.
MAY, 1904.
To Lease-holders, Land-owners, and Others

HAWKES BROS.
Beg to notify having made very special arrangements for large supply of
FENCING MATERIALS,
Including an Extra Big Stock of
BEST GERMAN BLACK FENCE WIRE,
No. 8, at 10s per cwt. Net Cash.
Ton Lots, £9 15s per ton.
This is an Extra Low Price, and takes effect for this month only.
GALVANISED WIRE NETTING,
In all widths, gauges, and meshes. A few examples—36in. x 1½in. x 18g., at 19s 6d coil (100 yds.); 36in. x 1½in. x 17g., at 24s 6d; 42 x 1½in. x 18g., 24s 6d. Special Quotations for Quantities.
GALVANISED FENCING WIRE, No. 8, 13s; No. 10, 14s cwt.
do. BARB WIRE, No. 12 (440yds.), 17s; No. 14 (700yds.), 19s.
LACING WIRE, FENCE DROPPERS (Wood and Steel), STAPLES, NETTING FASTENERS, and all other Requisites at Lowest Current Rates.
BUILDING MATERIALS.
Large Stocks of Hardwood, Pine Weatherboards, T. and G. Flooring, Doors, Sashes, Lime, Cement. Prices on Application.
FURNITURE.
Direct from makers, to suit all purses. Inspect Show Rooms.
District CASH BUYERS of GRAIN, in any quantity.
Also on hand CHAFF, OATS, BRAN, and POLLARD, at Lowest Rates.
A Special Line of FOWL'S WHEAT at 10s Bag.
NOTE ADDRESS—
HAWKES BROS.,
MERCHANTS,
Neill Street, BEAUFORT.

FARM AND GARDEN

SPRAYING ORCHARDS.

Coddling Moth and Woolly Aphis—A Spraying Outfit Described.

F. L. Washburn, entomologist of the Oregon experiment station, after three years' observation on the habits of the coddling moth, expresses the belief that orchardists begin to spray too early for this pest and names as the time for the first spraying just after the blossoms have fallen. At the Oregon station, where the several insecticides have been tested, the combination that gave best satisfaction consisted of a pound of IXL (a comparatively new insecticide) to every 16 gallons of water, and to this paris green added in the proportions of a pound to every 800 gallons of liquid. About 15 pounds of whale oil soap (soft soap would have been as efficacious) were added to this 800 gallons. The IXL was crushed to pieces about the size of a hen's egg and sufficient hot water poured on to cover it. It was then added to the water, as well as the soap, which latter had first been thoroughly dissolved. The paris green was then added and the mixture kept stirred when spraying. It has been found expedient to mix the paris green with a small amount of water first and then pour the creamy mass into the spraying liquid. The spraying of apple trees began with the dropping of the blossoms; then three weeks were allowed between the second and third sprayings unless a heavy rain followed immediately after the application.

A SPRAYING OUTFIT.

While not indorsing all that the manufacturers of IXL claim for it, Mr. Washburn reports that in addition to its effectiveness in checking the coddling moth it also kept in check the woolly aphis and apple scab on trees that were thoroughly sprayed. Banding the trees with a strip of burlap proved a valuable adjunct to spraying. The bands are examined every few days and the larvæ found beneath killed. The cost of treatment per tree with the mixture described is 7 cents, including labor and material.

In the cut here reproduced from the station bulletin is shown the outfit used. It consists of a galvanized iron tank capable of holding about 160 gallons, fastened to a frame made of 2 by 12 plank, which in turn is hooked onto a wagon bed. When it is necessary to use a warm solution, a sheet iron stove is fitted under the tank, its door flush with the rear end. The smoke stack from this runs forward below the tank, out through a hole in the frame at the anterior end, and ends in an upright piece about 5 feet long (not shown in plate). A Bean pump No. 5 was used. Its receiving hose screws onto a faucet leading from the anterior end of tank, and its two pieces of discharge hose are connected with bamboo extensions, as shown in cut.

A wooden cover fits tightly onto the tank, in the center of which is a wide slit 2 feet long, through which a paddle is inserted and the liquid kept stirred while being sprayed. A good and cheap improvement on this method of stirring is to have a series of paddles hung from the cover, all worked by a lever which the driver could occasionally push back and forth. When not in use, this tank fits into a brick furnace and is used for compounding any insecticide which requires heat. A desirable addition is a tackle to hoist the tank when full from off the furnace and to roll it onto the wagon bed.

Notes For Bean Growers.

About a bushel of seed will plant an acre, dropping four to six in a hill. Of course the variety and size govern the quantity required. With a modern planter 10 to 12 acres can be planted in a day. The best planters leave a slight ridge over the seed. This permits early cultivation without injury to the young plants.

It is best to finish the cultivation by the time the first blossoms appear and the vines cover the ground. A crop of beans can sometimes be raised after the removal of a crop of hay, but there is danger of frost overtaking a late planting. Spring grain usually follows beans; then wheat, then grass, and beans again. Wheat may follow beans, especially the pea variety, which ripens early.

Of varieties, the whites are most certain to be in demand. Of the whites, the mediums and the pea beans will thrive best on moderately fertile soil and are less liable than the large marrows to damage from rain and frost.

Growing beans is somewhat of a local issue. Very few farmers less than 25 miles south of the bean growing section of northwestern New York have ever seen a bean planter or harvester. Although they have better wheat land, they cannot grow beans, writes a western New York bean grower in The Farm Journal.

Disking Land.

Among new ideas in farming is a point in corn culture that is being worked out by the leading farmers in some parts of Ohio and Iowa. An Iowa farmer tells in The Country Gentleman of farmers who take clean corn land and remove as much of the litter as possible; then put on disk harrows and thoroughly work up the surface (about three times over being the usual amount of work given), following up with smoothing harrow and planter. One man, in speaking of his trial of this plan last year, said he could tell to the row where he ceased plowing and begun with the disk harrow, the corn on the latter ground being so much larger.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

Does your head ache? Are you constipated and feel dull or depressed after eating? You are suffering from indigestion and are paving the way for more serious illness. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets are just what need. They will assist the digestion, regulate the bowels and give you new strength and vigor. For sale by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

SWEET POTATOES.

Storing and Keeping—A New Jersey Potato House Illustrated.

In Virginia and farther south sweet potatoes are usually kept over winter in pits covered with earth. In states farther north better protection than is afforded by these earth covered pits is required, and therefore, where large crops of sweet potatoes are to be stored, cellars and sweet potato houses are used for the purpose.

A NEW JERSEY POTATO HOUSE.

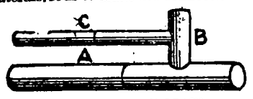
The illustration here reproduced from the Philadelphia Farm Journal shows a style of sweet potato house in common use in New Jersey. A dry, well drained spot is selected, and a cellar about three feet deep is excavated and a wall of rough stone about six feet high is built. On this a roof is put and the earth banked up to the top of the wall. The roof and ends should be double to keep out the cold. It is better also to have double doors, as indicated in cut. The house should front the southeast and the chimney be put at the cold end. The size of the house will of course depend on the crop to be stored.

Bins are made to hold 20, 50 or 100 barrels. Rough boards and a layer of straw are generally placed in the bottom and against the wall before putting the potatoes in the bin. A small cast iron cylinder coal burning stove is the kind in common use for heating. The fire should be started a few days in advance of storing to dry out the house, and a little be kept burning for a week afterward to dry off the potatoes, as they invariably go through a sweating process. During this time ventilation should be freely given. Afterward just enough fire should be maintained to keep the temperature between 60 and 70 degs. Sweet potatoes to keep well must be stored before heavy frosts kill the vines.

Tile Draining.

In tile draining a good main or outlet is essential to success. Here is an illustrated plan from Ohio Farmer, with a description by one who has tested its efficacy. He says:

I use either five or six inch tile, according to the amount of water to be carried. Lay the main with the natural flow, if practicable, and a foot deeper than the laterals, so as to make the connection on



OUTLET FOR TILE DRAIN.

top of the main, giving a free flow. Make the connections perfect, so there will be no earth working through. The accompanying cut shows the arrangement—A is the main, B the connecting arm and C the lateral. A flat stone will close the top of the arm all right. I place laterals about two feet deep, more or less, according to soil, etc., and place them three to seven rods apart, and, if possible, across the natural flow, thereby cutting off surface water more quickly.

In the Poultry Yard.

In reply to the oft repeated query, "How to obtain winter eggs?" the agricultural editor of the New York World says: "Secure pullets hatched in February and March. Keep them in a warm place. Feed with plenty of animal food, green stuff, sound grain, not too much soft food and do not change their surroundings." The Poultry World advises as follows: "Put the pullets that are to produce the eggs during the winter season in the quarters you intend them to occupy, so that they will become accustomed to the buildings and surroundings before winter. Give them the best of care and feed, so that by Nov. 1 they will be in condition to commence laying in dead earnest. Give them free range if possible, and they will pick up the kind of food their systems require much easier than you could supply it for them. The numerous insects that make their appearance this month will prove a luxury for the birds, and will be very beneficial. Give them a good grain diet also each morning and evening; feed oats, wheat, buckwheat and a little corn, varied occasionally by a mash composed of boiled vegetables mixed with bran or shorts."

As the cold weather approaches all growing flocks ought to be culled. It will not pay to feed chickens that do not promise to make well marked pullets and cockerels. The sooner such are disposed of the better the profit will be, says The Fanciers' Journal, which gives this advice: "It is well to keep all growing chickens on unlimited range as long as snow is off the ground, and even the quarters at night should be roomy and well supplied with pure air. A tight shed open only to the south is about as good a place for chickens as we know of, but care should be taken to prevent the depredations of skunks and other vermin."

News and Notes.

Colonel James Wood, of Mount Kisco, N. Y., ex-president of the New York State Agricultural society, will serve as director of the agricultural exhibit of the state of New York at the coming Columbian exposition at Chicago.

The British board of agriculture has issued an order to the effect that in future sheep from the United States will be allowed to land without being subject to slaughter or to quarantine.

Discouraging accounts are made of the results of the harvest in Great Britain.

Dr. Styles, of the bureau of animal industry, describes a new cattle parasite which lives in the follicles of the roots of the hair, and produces disease in the skin of the animal affected.

We are rapidly coming to the conclusion that bees need more ventilation in the cellar than many suppose.

INFLUENZA

Can be cured by commencing, at the first symptoms, to use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Thousands have used this remedy during the past year, and we have to learn of a single case where they were not pleased. For sale by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

INTEREST ON MUNICIPAL RATES.

SOME FURTHER INFORMATION.

SIMPLE INTEREST ONLY CHARGEABLE

The legal advisers to the Municipal Association, Messrs. Maddock and Jamieson, have supplied the following information regarding the payment of interest on arrears of rates:—

Question 1. Was there any defect in the Local Government Act 1901 with regard to the power to charge interest, and, if not, was the act mandatory? Answer: The act of 1891 was defective in so far as its provisions with regard to interest were concerned, as is shown by the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Glenelg v Broughton, in which it was stated:—"Curiously enough, however, there appears to be no express provision whereby the person actually rated on the rate book is personally liable for interest on arrears of rates; and accordingly this anomalous result has become law, that while the persons, so to say, secondarily liable under sections 293 and 294 of the act can be sued for both rates and interest on arrears of rates, the person actually rated is under no personal liability to pay interest." And again, in Lowan and Towns it was stated:—"Generally speaking, the section is extremely obscure, and when pushed to its logical consequences leads to singular conclusions (see per Hood J., Lowan v. Towns, 18. A.L.T., 123). Amendment or rather alteration of a radical kind is necessary, and it would be a thankless task to endeavour to interpret the present section."

Question 2. If there were a defect could it be remedied by the act of 1903, and the operation of that act made retrospective? Answer: The obscurity and uncertainty of the 1891 act is remedied by the act of 1903, but the latter act does not further than is subsequently here stated act retrospectively.

Question 3. Must interest be simple or compound? Answer: Simple interest only is chargeable.

Question 4. Can interest which under the 1891 act should have been paid, with arrears, but was not, be sued for now or made a charge on the property? Answer: Unpaid interest which could have been recovered under the 1901 act can still be recovered, and is still charged on the property in respect of which it arose.

Question 5. From what time do arrears start and interest become chargeable? Answer: Under the 1903 act interest is chargeable only on rates which are not paid within six months after they become payable, and when so chargeable the interest starts to run from the time when the rate was made payable by the council under section 297 (9) of the act. Thus in respect of a rate payable on the 1st November, 1903, if the amount is paid before 1st May, 1904, no interest is chargeable, but if not then paid interest is chargeable from the 1st November to 24th December, 1903 (the date of the commencement of the act), at 8 per cent, and thenceforward at the rate of 6 per cent until payment is made.

Ararat and Stawell Mining Board.

A meeting of the above Board was held at the Town Hall, Stawell, on Monday last, when there were present—Messrs Earle (chairman), Hodgetts, Curnick, McDonald, Bath, Browne, Humphreys, Holly, and Williamson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From Secretary for Mines, intimating in reply to the board's request that the Crown solicitor's opinion be obtained as to whether a shire council has power to rate tents used by miners as places of residence, the question is one which does not affect the administration of the Department. The Minister therefore did not feel justified in seeking the opinion asked for.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

Mr Williamson stated that some years ago a book was issued by the Mines Department, and called the "Miners' Handbook." The work had been compiled at the suggestion of this board, and some 12 months ago these books were called in. They were of a very valuable character, as they contained extracts from the Mines Act and all bye-laws of the State, and all information required in connection with the mining industry. He moved—"That the clerk write to the Department, and ask it to re-issue the books for sale by the mining registrars as previously."

Mr McDonald, in seconding the motion, said he coincided with the views expressed by Mr Williamson. The motion was carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be held at Stawell on 11th June.—Abridged from the *Advertiser*.

Snake Valley.

Mr J. Smith and his sister were driving home on Friday night, and in descending the hill in front of the Carngham post-office the breeching broke, and the horse bolted. After going some distance the belly-band broke, causing the shafts to rise, and the occupants of the vehicle were thrown out behind. Beyond a shaking, Mr Smith or his sister were little the worse for their experience.

The military cantata "Freddy's Button" was given in the Mortchup Presbyterian Church last Friday, 27th inst., on behalf of the Sunday school. Rev. J. S. Drummond had charge of the reading, and the musical portions of the programme were creditably carried out by the choir; the solos being taken by Mrs Drummond, Miss Bertha Drummond, and Messrs C. B. Williams and V. Wendt. Mr J. S. Drummond acted as organist, and Miss Bertha Drummond assisted on the violin.—*Courier*.

SENT NINE BOTTLES OF CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY TO HER FRIENDS.

"A lady customer of mine was so well pleased with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy which she had used for her children when suffering from colds and croup," says F. W. J. Fletcher, a chemist at Homebush, Victoria, "that during a fortnight's time she obtained at my shop, nine bottles, which she sent to friends in different parts of the State, telling them how much good it had done and advising them to give it a trial." Sold by by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Important to Applicants for Mining Leases.

Applicants for leases within the district covered by *The Riponshire Advocate* are invited to peruse the following facts:—

The New Mining Regulations require that when a lease is marked out the applicant "shall insert in a newspaper PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT WHERE THE LAND IS SITUATED, or if no such newspaper, then in the one published nearest the district, an advertisement or notice in the form marked A in the schedule prescribed."

Ten days are allowed, after marking out the lease, in which to lodge the application with the Warden or his clerk, and forward a duplicate to the Minister of Mines.

The word "district" in the regulations has been defined by the Crown Solicitor to be read as locality, and not as mining district, and the lease should therefore be advertised in the paper nearest the and for which application is to be made. As TEN days (not seven as formerly) are given in which to complete the application, no valid excuse can now be urged for failure to advertise the lease in the district paper, though it has only a weekly, and not a daily issue.

This is borne out by the following memo. from the Mines Department received by Mr H. A. Adams, *Grenville Standard*, Linton.—"Sir,—Referring to your communication, I have the honor to inform you that the Warden's clerk at Smythesdale has been instructed to advise intending applicants for mining leases, where opportunity offers [i.e., for tendering such advice], that the regulation relating to advertising their applications should be STRICTLY ADHERED TO.—I have the honor to be, etc., P. Cohen, for Sec. of Mines and Water Supply."

CURED OF NEURALGIA.

"I had been suffering for some time with a very bad attack of neuralgia," writes E. J. Potter, Esq., of Yea, Victoria, "when I was informed by Mr Fred. Purcell, of the establishment of Messrs E. S. Purcell & Co., that Chamberlain's Pain Balm was highly recommended for my complaint. Acting on his suggestion, I bought a bottle, and as soon as I returned home, applied same according to directions, and to my great delight I experienced immediate relief, and it only took a few applications to effect a complete cure." For sale by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Some severe comments have been passed by Labor Parliamentary candidates on the manner in which the police force funds have been handled by the Government, who have been accused of having dissipated the £70,000 pensions reserve fund. The Premier on Saturday explained that the Government had not used the money in any illegitimate manner. As a matter of fact an Act was passed by the Turner Government in 1898, which appropriated £20,000 annually from the fund in question, on the condition that a Government subsidy was allowed in proportion. In 1887 the Government subsidy to the pension fund amounted to £2000, but since then it has been greatly increased, and in 1903 amounted to no less than £47,000.

The Chief Justice of New South Wales has expressed a strong opinion against the State Arbitration Act. He said:—It is beyond question that the act is in derogation of common law. It does encroach upon the liberty of the subject as regards persons and property; it creates new crimes unknown to common law, or contained in any previous statute; it interferes with the liberty of action both of the employer and employee. Further, I think this act is productive of a most alarming and deplorable amount of litigation, with its concomitant ill-feeling and ill-will between employers and employees, who are by this act forced into hostile camps. I believe the object of the Legislature in passing this act was to promote peace and goodwill between employers and employees, but I fear it has not had that effect."

A sarcastic comment on the cry of the South African mine-owners that they must have Chinese labor is furnished by the annual report of the Transvaal Chamber of Mines. It shows that the Rand gold companies were able last year to distribute an aggregate of no less than £3,345,499 in dividends. The majority paid from 15 to 75 per cent. Out of the whole number only four paid 10 per cent or less. One company, the Ferreira, paid 187½ per cent, the Crown reef paid 155 per cent, and three properties distributed 100 per cent each. The total value of the gold produced in the twelve months was £12,146,307, as against £7,179,307 in 1902. Since 1895 the Ferreira has distributed no less than £14 18s 6d per share. The Crown Reef comes next with a total of £11 1s per share, and among other mines the Durban-Roodepoort has paid 95s, the Henry Nourse 94s, the Heriot 91s, the South African Gold Trust 85s 6d, and the Geldenhuis Estate 79s.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," for it *will positively restore in every case Greyer White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere. Wholesale depot 33, Farrington Road, London, England.

CHOOSE THE SURE REMEDY.

The Safe Road Indicated.

The Case of Miss M. A. GRANT.

(By a Special Reporter.)

No one can read these lines without realising that they will have a decidedly good influence upon the lives of many, for they convey a message such as must cheer even the most dejected of mortals. Miss Mary Ann Grant, of No. 7 Simmons-street, Prahran, tells the story, which runs:—

"When I was living in Newtown, Sydney, some seven years ago, my health was anything but good, and for a considerable length of time I knew what it was to feel the want of a few words of advice such as will lead to the termination of one's sufferings."

"Why? Could nobody tell you what to get?" asked the writer.

"I mean to say that for long enough nobody told me the right remedy to get, which meant that I had to suffer on and on till Clements Tonic came my way through the recommendation of a relative, and up till then what I had gone through was awful to relate."

"I would like to hear it if you don't mind."

"Well, you may. I found myself dreadfully weak and run down to an extent which almost makes me shudder to think of it, for I could not do my housework without feeling it to be the greatest hardship going. Right through my body there was such a scarcity of strength and such a profusion of aches that I can honestly say I did not like moving about at all. If it were only the sickening headaches I had to bear my afflictions would have been great enough, surely; but to them I have to add many ailments, not the least of which was an excessive nervousness which caused me more trouble than I like to recall. Almost without reason I grew timid and agitated several times a day, and at night I was more nervous than ever, and when you hear that I was a very poor sleeper, and spent most of the time worrying about all sorts of horrible imaginations, you can guess what a wretched time I had. A heavy feeling affected me in my chest, pains shot through to my shoulder blades, the least thing made me irritable, and in the mornings I always had a very bitter taste in the mouth."

"Do you remember what your digestion was like?"

"Oh, my organs of digestion were altogether at fault, for every kind of food disagreed with me—the little I had of it, for I can assure you it was very hard for me to eat anything owing to the poorness of my appetite—and after each light repast I was persecuted with all those horrible sensations which accompany indigestion. But the worst has yet to be told. Following upon these afflictions came a fearful attack of neuralgia, which affected my jaws, gums, forehead and back of head to an agonising degree, and I can assure you that I was often almost stupified with pain. This was the time when my relative advised me what to do."

"And how did you get on then?"

"With Clements Tonic—splendidly. Before starting with that medicine I was thin and gaunt, and nothing but a shadow of what I once had been, but in a little while a wonderful alteration came over me, and to the end of my days I shall thank Clements Tonic for it, as that was the only medicine which could do so much for me. I was soon inspired with hope, for Clements Tonic acted like a charm upon my neuralgic tortures and gradually drove them right away, and after taking about three bottles I could eat my food quite heartily. As for sleeping, well, I never slept better in all my life, and, oh! believe me, I was so thankful for all the ease and strength which Clements Tonic brought, and I earnestly hope other sufferers may read my story for their own sakes. Nervousness left me, thank heaven, and so did the pains and aches about my body, and what pleased me immensely was to find I could digest all and every kind of food with ease. It was a treat to be able to get about again with the energetic and light-hearted feelings which soon resulted after beginning with Clements Tonic, and for regulating and toning the entire system I always recommend the use of that wonderful remedy. Indeed, I cannot speak too highly of it, for by restoring my health Clements Tonic took me from misery to happiness, and in return you have my permission to publish these remarks in any way."

STATUTORY DECLARATION.

I, MARY ANN GRANT, of No. 7 Simmons-street, Prahran, in the State of Victoria, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of four folios, and consecutively numbered from one to four, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish in any manner my statements—which I give voluntarily, and without receiving any payment; and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act of the Parliament of Victoria rendering persons making a false declaration punishable for wilful and corrupt perjury.

Mary Ann Grant

Declared at Prahran, in the State of Victoria, this 25th day of January, 1904, before me,
HENRY OSMENT, J.P.
A Justice of the Peace in and for the Central Bailiwick of the State of Victoria.

Railway Time-Table.

The following is the new railway time table, which took effect on Monday, 2nd May, 1904:—A mixed train leaves Ballarat at 11.20 a.m., Trawalla at 12.7 p.m., reaching Beaufort at 12.22, and taking its departure at 12.30. It leaves Middle Creek at 12.54, and Buangor at 1.4. The Adelaide express still leaves Melbourne at 4.40 p.m. (Sundays excepted), Ballarat at 7.50, and Beaufort at 8.44 (arriving here at 8.39). On the return journey to Melbourne (Monday excepted) the express leaves Beaufort at 6.25 a.m. (arriving here at 6.20). The afternoon mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat runs every week day. It departs from Buangor at 4.45 p.m., Middle Creek at 4.55, Beaufort at 5.30 (arriving here at 5.20), Trawalla at 5.54, and Burrumbeet at 6.9. A mixed train will also leave Ballarat and intervening stations to Stawell on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5.10 a.m. (arriving here at 6.50 a.m., and leaving at 6.55 a.m.), and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 5.15 p.m., Burrumbeet at 6.9, Trawalla at 6.35, Beaufort at 7 (arriving here at 6.50), Middle Creek at 7.30, and Buangor at 7.42. The morning mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat leaves Stawell at 6 a.m. instead of 6.15 a.m., and is timed to leave the district stations every week day as follows:—Buangor, 7.48; Middle Creek, 8; Beaufort, 8.37 (arriving here at 8.27); Trawalla, 8.50; Burrumbeet, 9.16.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY not only cures colds and influenza, but counteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. It always cures and cures quickly. Sold by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

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CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.

THE PROPRIETOR of the above well-known Hostelry, in thanking residents of Beaufort and district for the very liberal patronage bestowed on the house during the past two years, takes this favorable opportunity to let them know that the HOTEL has lately been thoroughly RENOVATED, PAINTED, and where necessary, RE-FURNISHED, and patrons will now find the

Accommodation Unsurpassed in the District.

Best Brands of Wines, Spirits and Ales will be retailed, as heretofore, with every civility.

WILLIAM J. HILL, Proprietor.

F. G. PRINCE

Begs to intimate that he has STARTED BUSINESS as a BUTCHER in premises in

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT

(next door to Mr. T. Sands), and hopes by strict attention to business and by keeping the Primest Meat, to merit a fair share of public patronage. Small Goods a Speciality.

T. E. SANDS, Cash Grocer,

Begs to inform the public of Beaufort and district that he has removed his business to the Corner of NEILL and LAWRENCE STREETS, BEAUFORT, and by keeping only Best Quality Goods, at Lowest Rates, hopes to secure a fair share of public patronage. Orders called for.

J. B. COCHRAN begs to intimate that having purchased Miss Wilson's Stock of FANCY GOODS, TOYS, CONFECTIONERY, etc., he intends carrying on this Business, in conjunction with his NEWS AGENCY and STATIONERY BUSINESS, in the premises formerly occupied by Miss Wilson, next door to Wotherspoon & Co's. Ladies are notified that Afternoon Tea can be obtained. Accordeons, Concertinas Violins, and Musical Sundries kept in Stock A good assortment of Pipes Tobacco, an Cigarettes

WM. C. PEDDER,

Wheelwright and Blacksmith,

Begs to thank the public of Beaufort and surrounding district for their patronage during the last 15 years, and to intimate that he is still carrying on business at the same old address,

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT,

with a staff of skilled mechanics and up-to-date machinery, and is prepared to execute any orders entrusted to him with promptness and despatch. Prices as low as possible, consistent with good workmanship. Horses as usual carefully shod.

Police Magistrate's Fixtures.

The following are the police magistrate's permanent engagements in the Ballarat district, with the necessary proviso, added by Mr Dickson, "unless otherwise engaged":—

Ballarat—10 a.m., daily.
Ballarat East—10 a.m., 3rd Wednesday and fourth Thursday.
Beaufort—1.30 p.m., 1st Thursday and fourth Tuesday.
Bungaree—9 a.m., 4th Monday.
Buninyong—3.25 p.m., 3rd Friday.
Carngham—2 p.m., 2nd Wednesday.
Gordon—9 a.m., 2nd Monday.
Linton—2 p.m., 1st Saturday.
Learmonth—12.30 p.m., 1st Tuesday.
Kaleno—11 a.m., 2nd Tuesday.
Scarsdale—Noon, 3rd Thursday.
Sebastopol—3.30 p.m., 2nd Thursday
Skipton—10 a.m., 2nd Wednesday.
Smythesdale—Noon, 3rd Tuesday.

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REGAL CLUB WHISKY,

Which since its importation to Victoria, within the last six months, has established itself in public favor to an extent HITHERTO UNEQUALLED PROBABLY BY ANY OTHER WHISKY THAT HAS COME INTO THE STATE, the following Certificate from one of the most eminent of English analysts gives it at once a hall-mark of superiority, which must recommend it to the confidence of every consumer:—

CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify that I have submitted to a very careful Chemical Analysis a sample of the REGAL CLUB WHISKY received from the Imperial Glenlivet Distillery, Strathspey, N.B., and the analytical data I have obtained proves it to be, in a conclusive manner, a product of high quality and purity. It possesses a mellow and creamlike flavor that is only to be found in the choicest whiskies, and is entirely free from all acrid or undesirable admixture. It has been thoroughly and naturally matured by age, and contains restorative and dietetic properties of a high order.

GRANTVILLE H. SHARP, F.C.S., Analyst, London, E.C.

J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Agents.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

In thanking the public for the support accorded me for the past 4½ years, I beg to announce that I have taken the

Golden Age Hotel, Beaufort,

And trust by keeping the very

Best Liquors in Stock,

to receive a share of public patronage.

I will be in possession on and after Saturday, January 30th.

MEALS a Specialty, from 1s.

A careful Groom always in attendance.

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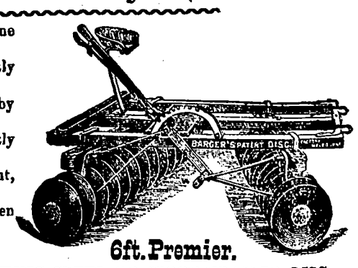
The only Machine that leaves Land Perfectly Level.

This Patent Style of Machine is the only machine perfectly and completely controlled by Compound Levers to instantly set machine in and out of cut, or deeper or shallower when travelling. Made all size.



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What a lot in that one word when associated with any Business whatever, and what a vast amount there is in it when bracketed with a WATCHMAKER'S and JEWELLERY BUSINESS.

YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED

Our business going ahead while others were standing still or going backwards.

YOU MUST HAVE AN IDEA

Of what our business is now compared to what it was a few years back.

YOU MUST GUESS

That there is something powerfully convincing about our method of doing business. ARE YOU ONE OF PAYNE'S CUSTOMERS? If not, we respectfully ask for your patronage, and if afterwards you do not think we are worthy of it, we are perfectly willing to lose it.

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Another thing we wish you to bear in mind is that all PAYNE'S RINGS are made by Expert Ring-makers only. You can buy a ring here with confidence, and rest assured that it has passed through hands whose owners have made ring-making a life-long study. Of course, you can see from the foregoing that this is undoubtedly our specialty; but a splendid selection of other goods is shown as well, including Brooches, Links, Bracelets, Muff Chains, Photo Pendents, Gent's. Gold and Silver Chains, Lockets, Medals, Necklets, Gold, Silver, Nickel, and Gun-metal Watches, Clocks, Spectacles, &c.

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A. H. SANDS,

Cabinet Maker, Upholsterer, and Picture Framer.

A well-assorted stock of Softwood Timber, Picture Framing, Paints, Oils, and Window Glass kept on hand.

Give your orders for JOB PRINTING to the newspaper in your district, because it prints thousands of reports and notifications for which it receives no payment whatever. It is always spending its time and money to benefit and improve the prospects of the place through which it circulates. It gives you value in return for your printing or.

An advertisement is a paper man's marketable commodity, and it is quite as much so as a side of bacon, a pound of butter, or a ton of flour. No man can afford to give away the things he sells for a livelihood, and the man who does so in order to get business is generally in a bad way. Don't try to put the paper man "in a bad way." But exercise a little human nature. Support him; he needs encouragement and support; but do it in the legitimate way. If the printer gets a few pounds worth of printing orders from you, he is not in a position to give you a pound's worth of advertising for nothing. And you have had value for the printing already. Go into a grocer's or draper's for £3 worth of goods, and the grocer's man or draper will not throw in gratis £1 worth of something else that you may ask for. Try him; you don't believe us.

SUPPORT

LOCAL INDUSTRY,

AND

SUBSCRIBE

TO THE

LOCAL PAPER,

THE

RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE.

We ask that our efforts for the district's good shall be recognised. An increased circulation means still greater usefulness on our part. When a neighbour or friend asks for the loan of the local paper, tell him or her that for the small sum of

3s per Quarter

It is obtainable direct from the office regularly.

In addition to complete and impartial reports of all local meetings, an interesting

14-Column Supplement

Is presented to Regular Subscribers.

ORDERS FOR

Plain and Ornamental

JOB * PRINTING

Executed with Neatness and Despatch.

Bear in mind that

ADVERTISING

ALWAYS PAYS.

Business men should note that as the Local Paper is extensively read in the district, it therefore affords a splendid advertising medium.

A Safe Remedy for all Skin and Blood Diseases.

If you suffer from any disease due to an impure state of the Blood, from whatever cause arising, you should test the value of Clarke's Blood Mixture, the world-famed Blood Purifier and Restorer. This medicine has 40 years' reputation, and is to-day more popular than ever, the reason of this being undoubtedly because this wonderful remedy does what it professes to do—it cures skin and blood diseases permanently.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

IS THE FINEST BLOOD PURIFIER EVER DISCOVERED.

It is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For

SCROFULA,	BAD LEGS,
SCURVY,	BLOTCHES,
ECZEMA,	SPOTS,
BLOOD POISON,	BLACKHEADS,
ULCERS,	PIMPLES,
SKIN and BLOOD DISEASES,	and SORES OF ALL KINDS,

it is a safe and permanent remedy.

It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains, for it removes the cause from the Blood and Bones.

NOTE.—This mixture is pleasant to the taste and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, and the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it.

TRIED MANY THINGS WITHOUT BENEFIT UNTIL I TOOK CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE.

Mr F. E. Lewis, 46 Bridge Street, Row, Chester, writes:—"Just a line in favour of 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I had eczema for seven months, and tried many things without benefit until I took your remedy. After the eighth bottle I was quite well again. Please accept this letter as a token of gratitude to your wonderful 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.'"—June 13, 1903.

ECZEMA AND IRRITATING SKIN TROUBLE CURED.

Mr W. G. Weston, care of Messrs Knott, of 49, Essex-street, King-land-road, N.E., writes:—"Gentlemen,—"I feel it my duty to inform you of the great benefit in health I have received through taking your famous 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I have been a sufferer from eczema and an irritating skin trouble since the age of thirteen. While an out-patient at one of the big London hospitals a doctor informed me that my disease was the result of looking after foreign horses. I have had as many as thirty horses under my care, my father being a horsedealer and jobmaster. He (my father) was speaking one day to a friend of mine who mentioned that he was being cured of an ulcerated leg, due to a horse-kick, by 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I continued, however, to suffer until April 4 last, when my friend told me he was completely cured. Then I started to take 'Clarke's Blood Mixture' myself, and I am now completely cured, after suffering and being disfigured for several years. I am able to follow my employment, and am very pleased to think there is such a valuable remedy obtainable for such a small sum. I should be pleased to answer any inquiries concerning my case."—July 12, 1903.

ANOTHER PERMANENT CURE OF BAD LEGS AND ABSCESSES.

Mr James Waring, of Clay Coton Lodge, near Rugby, writes:—"It is with great pleasure that I write to tell you of the benefit I have derived from taking 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' For a long time I suffered with bad legs and abscesses. I was under a doctor for five months, and, not getting much better, I went as an out-patient to the local hospital for nine weeks. The doctor then told me I should have to go inside before he could do anything for me. I went in and stayed for thirteen weeks, and after undergoing two operations I got a little better. Before I had been out of hospital a week I became worse than ever, so my wife told me to try 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I did so, and after taking five bottles and using four pots of your salve I was completely cured. I have waited twelve months to see if my legs broke out again, but, thanks to your 'Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture,' I am as well to-day as I have ever been in my life. You can make what-ever use you like of this letter."—Oct. 15, 1903.

IMPURITIES IN THE BLOOD.—"We have seen boxes of letters from all sorts and conditions of people, in which the writers acknowledge the benefit they have received from Clarke's Blood Mixture, which as a curative agent cannot be too highly estimated, since it cleanses and clears the blood from all impurities, and restores it to its normal condition." This is a good testimonial from the *Family Doctor*, the popular medical weekly, which goes on further to say:—"It is certainly the finest blood purifier that science and skill have brought to light, and we can with the utmost confidence recommend it to our subscribers and the public generally."

Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

Ask for

Clarke's Blood Mixture,

and beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

RE MINING LEASES.

It is notified for general information that applicants for Mining Leases are required, within seven days previous to lodging the application, to insert in a newspaper published in the district where the land is situated, or if no such newspaper, then in one published nearest the district, an advertisement or notice in the form marked "A" in the schedule relating to Mining Leases.

Justices' Fixtures.

The local J.s.P. have arranged to attend the Beaufort Courts of Petty Sessions as under:—Second Tuesday.—Messrs F. Beggs, J. R. Wotherspoon, and Rear-Admiral Bridges. Fourth Tuesday.—Messrs M. Flynn, G. Topper, and T. Beggs.

THROAT AFFECTION AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight" cold, or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European Depot, 36, Farringdon Road, London, England.

GENERAL PRINTING

AT LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

"The Advocate" Office, Beaufort

Postal Intelligence.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS.

MAIL TIME TABLE.

Daily.	Closing Time. a.m.	p.m.
Melbourne		8 and 4.50
Ballarat		8 and 4.50
Geelong		8 and 4.50
Trawalla		8 and 4.50

Registered mail and parcels post close 20 minutes prior.

Ararat, 11.50 a.m., and 8 p.m. (including Sundays.)

Stawell ... 11.50 } 8 p.m. Sundays,
Middle Creek, 11.50 } Tuesdays, and
Murton ... 11.50 } Thursdays.
Buangor ... 11.50 }

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

English mail per Mail Steamer, via Adelaide, 8 p.m. every Wednesday.

COUNTRY.

Daily	a.m.
Raglan	9.15
Waterloo	9.15
Waterloo S.	9.15
Main Lead,	9.15
Chute	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Nerring	9.15
Lake Goldsmith	9.15
Stockyard Hill	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m.

Eurambeen	12.45
Shirley,	12.45

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

MAILS INWARD.
Arrive Daily.

From Melbourne, Ballarat, Geelong, and Trawalla.—12.20 p.m. daily and 8.40 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. From Melbourne and Ballarat, 7 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

From Ararat, Stawell, Middle Creek, and Murton.—5.30 p.m. daily. Ararat, Stawell, and Buangor, 8.30 a.m. daily.

From Waterloo, Waterloo South, Main Lead, Raglan, and Chute.—4.30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

From Stockyard Hill, Nerring, and Lake Goldsmith.—4.30 p.m.

From Eurambeen and Shirley.—4.30 p.m.

From England.—Weekly.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Two deliveries by postman daily.

Office is open daily for transaction of postal and telegraph business, sale of stamps and postal notes from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m., and from 7 p.m. till 8 p.m.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

From 9 a.m. till 5 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SAVINGS BANK.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, 10 to 12 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. for receiving deposits only.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.
From 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.

OLD AGE PENSION PAYMENTS.
9 a.m. till 3 p.m.

G. M. CREAGH, Postmistress.

The Man Who Doesn't Advertise

Breathes there a man with soul so dead
That to himself he hath not said,
"My trade of late is getting bad,
I'll try another ten-inch ad."
If such there be, go mark him well,
For him no bank account shall swell—
No angel watch the golden stair
To welcome home a millionaire.

To such a man the noisy din
Of traffic may not enter in,
For bargain hunters by the score
Shall pass nor heed his dingy door;
For tho' his sign is on the wall
And on some barnyard gate a scrawl,
No people who have cash and sense,
Go prancing around to read the fence.

The man who never asks for trade
By local line or ad. displayed
Cares more for rest than worldly gain
And patronage but gives him pain;
Tread lightly, friends, let no rude sound
Disturb his solitude profound.
Here let him live in calm repose
Unsought except by men he owes.

And when he dies, go plant him deep
That naught may break his dreamless sleep,
Where no rude clamor may dispel
The quiet that he loved so well,
And that the world may know its loss
Place on his grave a wreath of moss
And on the stone above, "Here lies
A chump who wouldn't advertise."

—Mortimer Crane Brown.

"KEATING'S POWDER" destroys Bugs, Fleas, Moths, Beetles, and all other insects, whilst quite harmless to domestic animals. In exterminating Beetles the success of this powder is extraordinary. It is perfectly clean in application. See the article you purchase is "KEATINGS," *i.e.*, with the signature THOMAS KEATING on each tin, as imitations are noxious and ineffectual. Sold in Tins, 6d and 1s. each, by all chemists.

Or you dry to do pecunis mitowt advertising, you will find yourself already like a boy drying to shlide a hill down mitowt shnow. Besides dere ish dese differences: ven you don't got some shnow you gant make 'em; but you can somedimes shenerally always make der advertising come right avay quick off all der year round, mit some moneys.—Joseph.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It softens the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery, and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere.

TAKE

BEECHAM'S PILLS

To avoid Indigestion

That distressed feeling is simply a poorly-working stomach—it needs a little help—but no matter how bad it may be, a dose of BEECHAM'S PILLS will SPEEDILY GIVE RELIEF. Take BEECHAM'S PILLS for a few days and the trouble will disappear.

To Cure Sick Headache

Sick headache means an overtaxed stomach and a derangement of the digestive organs. BEECHAM'S PILLS have proved themselves a boon for removing that distressed feeling and discomfort. A dose will remove the immediate cause, and if repeated for a few days will enable your system to work normally.

Sold Everywhere in Boxes,

Price 1s. 1½d. (56 Pills) and 2s. 9d. (168 Pills.)

P. J. O'SULLIVAN,

SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER
SNAKE VALLEY.

A large Assortment of Saddlery and Harness Requisites kept in stock.

All kinds of Harness bought, sold, or exchanged.

Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Also Cash Buyer of Hides, Horse-hair, Beeswax, Furred Skins, &c., &c.

NOTICE.

We have resolved to REDUCE THE SUBSCRIPTION to "THE RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE" (with which is published a 14-column supplement containing well-selected reading matter) to 3s. per quarter, and trust that this concession will be generally taken advantage of.

The Advertising Rates have also been considerably reduced, and advertisers will find it to their benefit to avail themselves of the columns of "The Riponshire Advocate," which is the only newspaper that is printed and published within the boundaries of the Shire. As the advocate of the interests and for the welfare of this district, it has a claim for a considerable amount of support, and has a greater scope for extended usefulness than any other journal or journals within a given radius of Beaufort.

Job Printing, plain and ornamental, of every description, is executed with neatness, accuracy and despatch, and on the most reasonable terms.

We take this opportunity of thanking our patrons for past favors, and while respectfully soliciting a renewal of support, desire to state that increased attention will be given to all matters of local and general interest. As a record of news we will always endeavour to make our columns as comprehensive as possible. In all departments, in fact, we will aim at improvement, and, therefore, confidently appeal to the public for increased support.

ARTHUR PARKER,
Proprietor

Business man—"You remember that 'ad.' I had in your paper, and took out two months ago? Well, I want to have it put back again." Editor—"Why, I thought you said no one noticed it while it was in." Business man (humbly)—"They didn't seem to until I took it out." The mere fact of your advertising lets people know you are still in business; also that your business is sufficiently important to stand advertising. If you are in business you cannot afford to do without advertising, as it is too much of an admission to the world at large.—Extract from an interview with a man who has profited by newspaper advertising.

The greatest aid you can give your newspaper is your job printing; if you do not feel able to run an advertisement, surely you can afford to give the newspaper your cards, dodgers, bill-heads, letter-heads, envelopes, and all business printing to execute. The newspaper man needs it, and it helps him to pay his printers for setting up the thousand and one free notices he gives you and your town; but don't give it to the printer or job printing office that can give you no such return, and is spending neither time, money, nor brains in helping you to build up your town. The time may come when a newspaper can live simply upon the revenue derived from advertising and subscriptions, but no ordinary newspaper in any ordinary town can exist without the auxiliary support derived from job printing. Therefore, if you want a *good* newspaper—one that can still further help you and your town—give it your job printing.

J. B. COCHRAN, NEWS AGENT, BOOKSELLER, and STATIONER, begs to announce to the inhabitants of BEAUFORT and district that he is Sole Agent for the *Argus*, *Age*, *Herald*, *Star*, *Courier*, Melbourne *Punch*, Sydney *Bulletin*, *Riponshire Advocate*, *Leader*, *Weekly Times*, *Australasian*, *Australian Journal*, *Sportsman*, and all other Periodicals. All School Requisites kept in stock. Advertisements received for all the above-named papers. While thanking his numerous customers for past favors, he trusts, by strict attention to the delivery of all papers, to merit a fair share of their support. Advertisements received for all Melbourne and Ballarat papers. By sending through local agent advertisers save postage. Note the address—Next door to Wotherspoon & Co.

STEVENSON BROS.,

BUILDERS

AND

CONTRACTORS,

HAVELOCK STREET,

BEAUFORT.

Estimates submitted for all work in building line.

JOHN HUMPHREYS

COMMISSION & INSURANCE AGENT

ACCOUNTANT ETC.,

Neill Street, Beaufort.

RENTS and Debts Collected. Agent for the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

Agency Business of all kinds attended to.

YOU CAN AFFORD IT.

Very few are too poor now-a-days to take their country paper, and it is false economy to try and get along without it. Hardly a week passes that something or other does not appear in its columns that will be of financial benefit to the subscriber, and by the end of the year he had made or saved or won twenty times the subscription paid for it. The city papers don't take the place of the country ones, though some people appear to think they do. The city papers are all right in their way, but they do not give you that in which you are most interested—your country news. You cannot learn from them when and where your country meetings are to be held, who are dying or who are marrying, who are moving in or who are moving out, court proceedings, who wants to buy or sell farm or land produce, in fact hundreds of things of which it might be of particular importance for you to know. If you can afford to take only one paper, by all means take the one that is published in the country or district where you live. It will cost you less, and thereby you will be assisting yourself and keeping the money in the district.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, in writing, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.

2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their newspapers, the publisher may continue to send them until arrears are paid.

3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the post-office to which they are directed, they are held responsible until they settle their bills, and ordered the newspapers to be discontinued.

4. If subscribers move to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to the former direction, the subscribers are responsible

5. The court has decided that is refusing to take periodicals from the post-office or leaving them uncalled for, "*prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud."

6. Any person who receives a newspaper and makes use of it, whether he has ordered it or not, is held in law to be a subscriber.

HINTS TO FRIENDLY READERS

You want to see the local paper a successful institution.

Talk about it wherever you go

Mention it to the tradespeople with whom you do business.

If they don't advertise in it, try and induce them to do so.

If you are induced to buy anything from what you have read in its advertising columns mention the fact to the tradesman.

Don't lend your paper to any person who can afford to become a subscriber but is too mean to support local enterprise.

A country paper kindly supplies this beautiful simile:—"You might as well try to shampoo an elephant with a thimbleful of soapsuds as attempt to do business and ignore advertising."

FLORILINE.—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH—A few drops of the liquid. "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in parts of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depôt, 33 Farringdon Road, London, England.

To our Readers and Patrons.

THE PROSPERITY OF A DISTRICT DEPENDS chiefly upon the support and encouragement that is given by the population to local enterprise and industry. Every venture is to a more or less extent speculative, but each, whilst aiming at the success of Promoter, must offer certain returns to those whose support is necessary to achieve certain advantageous results on both sides.

Therefore,

Support Local Industry and Local Enterprise.

The law of exchange was never satisfactory in its working; thus it was that the custom of buying and selling, using a standard currency was introduced. One form of that currency known as "paper money," and of paper money there is more than one kind. All kinds are useful, but not every kind retains its original value. The "paper" money most valuable to a newspaper proprietor is that which is sent him by

"*Subscribers and Advertisers*"

and he will do his utmost to entitle him to a good share of it.

"The Riponshire Advocate"

is the Advertising Medium for all Contractors, and notifications of the Shire of Ripon and is the

ONLY NEWSPAPER

That is

Printed and Published within the boundaries of the Shire,

And as the advocate of the interests and the welfare of this district it has a claim to considerably greater amount of support, has a greater scope for extended usefulness than any other journal or journals within a radius of the Shire Offices.

The Circulation

of the

Riponshire Advocate

Is

Steadily Increasing,

And the Proprietor, recognising the increased support in this direction, will use his utmost endeavors to merit and sustain the patronage accorded him by giving the Latest possible Local and General News, and the most interesting and instructive information.

"The Advocate,"

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING,

CIRCULATES in the following districts:—Beaufort, Stockyard Hill, Lake Goldsmith, Sailor's Gully, Main Lead, Raglan, Chute, Waterloo, Eurambeen, Buangor, Middle Creek, Shirley, Trawalla, Skipton, and Carngham.

With every issue of the Paper is given

A FOURTEEN-COLUMN

SUPPLEMENT,

Containing an

Interesting Serial Tale,
Amusing Anecdotes,
Pastoral News,
Poultry Farming
Agricultural Intelligence,
Recipes,
Gardening Items,
Etc., Etc., Etc.

Business Men, Read.

It was Benjamin Franklin who wrote—

"What steam is to machinery, advertising is to business."

And another writer has said that—

"He who in his "biz" would rise,
Must either 'bust' or advertise."

And advertisers cannot do better than make the *Riponshire Advocate* the medium for their announcements.

Arthur Parker,

Printer and Publisher,

LAWRENCE STREET, BEAUFORT.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

BALL TICKETS & PROGRAMMES,
ADDRESS & BUSINESS CARDS,
MINING SCRIP, REPORTS, &c.,
PAMPHLETS, CIRCULARS,
BILLHEADS, POSTERS,
DELIVERY BOOKS
DRAPERS' HANDBILLS,
CATALOGUES, MOURNING CARDS,
SOIREE & DINNER TICKETS,
&c., &c.,

PRINTED in FIRST CLASS STYLE

AT MELBOURNE PRICES.

Office:—Lawrence Street, Beaufort.

Plain & Ornamental Printing

Of Every description executed at the

"RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE OFFICE.

BOOKBINDING

ON REASONABLE TERMS

MINING SCRIP, CALL BOOKS, DELIVERY BOOKS, &c.

Prepared on the shortest notice.

DRESS FABRICS.

COUGLE'S.

In our DRESS DEPARTMENT we are showing a Choice Assortment in all the Latest for Winter Wear, at Moderate Prices.

TRUE ECONOMY LIES IN BUYING GOOD THINGS.

No. 1. Eight pieces plain Venetian Cloth, 42in., useful shades. Price, 1s. per yd.

No. 2. Six pieces Granite Tweed, stylish in appearance, and suitable for winter weather. Price, 14d. per yard.

No. 3. Six pieces Zibeline Friezes, 45in.—one of the latest materials for the present season. Price, 16s. 6d Dress.

No. 4. Eight pieces Coating Serges, in Black, Navy, Brown, Green, 1s 11d yard.

No. 5. Seven pieces 45in. Venetian Cloth, in Black and every fashionable colour. Price, 1s. 9d. per yard.

COUGLE'S,
HAVELOCK STREET,
BEAUFORT.

DULL WET WEATHER in no way interferes with the success of

RICHARDS & CO'S.
NEW INSTANTANEOUS PROCESS.

The Newest Styles in Photography.

The Art Folio, The Wallet Photograph, Artist Proofs.

BRIDAL PORTRAITS.—Our Studio has become famous for successful Bridal Portraits. Bridal Veils, Wreaths, and Bouquets kept the studio.

ENLARGED PHOTOS from any Old or Faded copy, in the newest solid art wood frame, 20s. each.

RICHARDS & CO.,
PHOTO ARTISTS,
23 STUART STREET, BALLARAT.

Mr J. W. HARRIS,

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST,
REGISTERED DENTIST,
AND
DRUGGIST,
HAVELOCK STREET, BEAUFORT.

In this established profession the first attention is devoted to the

DISPENSING DEPARTMENT.

Every care is ensured in the art and preparation of prescriptions, &c. The latest appliances are used in the Laboratory in Medical Tinctures and British Pharmacopœa Preparations, the Purest Chemicals and Drugs being used. Medicines at Ballarat Prices, sent to all parts of the State by post, rail, coach, &c., and all letters receive prompt and careful attention.

HARRIS'S ANÆMIA MIXTURE, an excellent and invaluable remedy.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN HERBS. Homeopathic Medicines. Horse and Cattle Medicines.

Mr J. W. HARRIS, R.D.S.,
Surgical & Mechanical Dentist,
HAVELOCK-STREET, BEAUFORT,

May be consulted DAILY from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Teeth fitted accurately on vulcanite or gold at lowest prices.

PAINLESS DENTISTRY.—Teeth extracted painlessly with cocaine ether, chloride of thyl, laughing gas, &

NOTE THE ADDRESS—
HAVELOCK-STREET
(Next Mechanics' Institute),
BEAUFORT

DENTISTRY.

Mr. A. E. GIBBS, and Mr. W. A. J. BRANSTON,
Surgical and Mechanical Dentists,
73 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,

Desire to notify the residents of Beaufort and surrounding districts that MR. BRANSTON may be consulted at BEAUFORT on the first Thursday of each month.
Teeth extracted painlessly.
All Artificial Teeth made on latest approved English and American principles.
Consultation Room—GOLDEN AGE HOTEL.
Hours—12.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

"RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE."
Notice to Advertisers.

OWING to the inconvenience caused by Advertisements being received after the appointed time, we beg to notify that unless ALTERATIONS TO STANDING ADVERTISEMENTS reach us by WEDNESDAY Morning, such alterations will not be made till the following issue.

In future this rule will be strictly enforced, in fairness to our employees.

Correspondents are also requested to send reports by Thursday.

A. PARKER, Proprietor.

Mr. SAMUEL YOUNG,
Barrister and Solicitor, Proctor and Conveyancer,
BEAUFORT.

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of the State of Victoria for taking Affidavits.

TRUST and other MONIES TO LEND on freehold and other securities.

A CARD.

CLEGG & MILLER,
ARCHITECTS,
LYDIARD STREET, BALLARAT.

Mr. Miller visits Beaufort periodically. Appointments made by letter.

United Ancient Order of Druids.

THE usual FORTNIGHTLY MEETING will be held in the LODGE ROOM, SOCIETIES' HALL, on TUESDAY, Evening next, at 8 o'clock sharp.
Election of Officers.

L. A. JAENSCH, Secy.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

SUNDAY, 12TH JUNE, 1904.

Presbyterian Church.—Beaufort, 11 a.m. and p.m.; Middle Creek, 2.30 p.m.—Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A. Raglan, 11 a.m.; Chute, 3 p.m.; Main Lead, 7 p.m.—Mr A. McLeod.

Methodist Church.—Beaufort, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Waterloo, 3 p.m.—Rev. R. Yeo. Chute, 11 a.m.; Raglan, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.—Mr West. Waterloo, 3 p.m.—Mr Davey.

THE
Riponshire Advocate
Published every Saturday Morning.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1904.

FEDERAL extravagance and interference with the State might have been the text of one of Mr. Bent's recent public utterances. The Arbitration Act and the Bush Capital were particularly referred to, and it must be a serious matter for the State if the Federal Government is going to assume the control of its servants. There has been apparently a quiet hint dropped that the next step of the Labor Government will be towards taking our railways under the Commonwealth, but whether the rumour is in a line with the truth or not is another matter. There are so many statements manufactured for the political purposes of the moment that one needs to be cautious about accepting all that is put forward. At all events the proposition is one that the State would not stand, particularly as at the present time our railways are looking up and we cannot be deprived of our great asset. The suggestion of the Labor Government to appoint a Federal High Commissioner in London will involve the Commonwealth in an unnecessary expense. It is not quite clear what this imposing and brass-bound official would do with himself in the old country. At the present time the States' interests in London are looked after by officials appointed and maintained by various Governments, and to send a Federal man home would just look like a piece of double banking. There is no money to waste on these expensive luxuries, and until it can be plainly shown that the outlay will result in an equivalent return, the proposal had better repose on the political shelf. It's no use getting ahead of ourselves, and in the matter of Federal expenditure the States are beginning to sound a note of protest against the unnecessary outlays. The experience of federation has been costly, like most other experiences, but what has taken place in the past should not be permitted to occur in future, and the Federal Houses should be no Tom Tiddler's ground for the finding of fat billets or the carrying out of log-rolling projects. Let it ever be remembered that we want a solid financial foundation for the Commonwealth, for without we have this to go on we will only be putting up jerry-built structures on sand. This foundation can only be obtained by the strictest watch being kept over the public purse, not in a niggardly way, but in order that extravagance may be avoided. The Federal Government talks of bringing in an Act to make the banks keep 40 per cent. of their reserves in Government debentures, but, with an eye on the State interest, Mr. Bent points out that such a course would mean that the State would be the poorer by £24,000 per annum, which is now received from the bank note tax. At the back of all is the fact that by 1910 the Australian States have to borrow or pay off—and there is not much chance of the latter—the sum of £30,000,000, Victoria's share being £7,000,000. The order is a fairly large one, and it is imperative and absolutely necessary that every attention should be given to getting our finances into the best condition possible, this duty being thrown on all the States. They are highly interested, therefore, in seeing that no extravagance goes on in connection with the administration of the Commonwealth affairs, and that High Commissioners, bush capitals, and similar prodigal ideas are not put into effect at the expense of the States. The Commonwealth Parliament should keep prominently in view what effect its actions will have on the States, as unless they all work harmoniously for the common good, the great object and hope of federation will have been missed by a long way.

Local and General News.

For Children's Hacking Cough at Night, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

The Hon. Hans W. H. Irvine, M.L.C., thanks the electors of the Nelson Province for returning him as one of their representatives in the Legislative Council.

The Hon. W. Drysdale Brown, M.L.C., returns thanks to the Nelson Province electors for electing him one of their representatives in the Legislative Council.

Mr S. G. Black, in our advertising columns, thanks those who supported him at the late election for a seat in the Legislative Council.

Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, for Coughs and Colds never fails. 1s. 6d.

Mr Thomas Ward, of Snake Valley, was recently driving with a companion, when the horse commenced to plunge owing to some of the harness breaking. Mr Ward, who was filling his pipe at the time, was thrown out of the vehicle, and the wheels passing over him, one of his ribs was broken and several others injured.

Dr. Lethbridge, late of Beaufort, has been appointed medical officer of the Talbot Oddfellows' Lodge as successor to Dr. Barnard, who is removing to Port Melbourne.

The following is the judge's award and remarks in connection with the essay, etc., at St. John's Carnival, Beaufort:—"I have examined the words lists, and essays and give my award as follows:—Best list—Joseph Flynn, 162 words, 1; Fred Bolt, 102 words, 2. No other competitor has found 100 words. Miss Morley, with 163 words, had not complied with the conditions. Essays.—'The Scribe' has partly spoilt a very creditable essay by carelessness in spelling, there being seven errors in orthography. Otherwise the essay is a very good one. 'Beaufort' has made no errors but has confined the essay principally to political Japan. After giving the matter careful consideration, I recommend that the prize be given thus:—'The Scribe,' 3s; 'Beaufort,' 2s. If the committee do not desire to give a second prize, I recommend that the first prize be reduced to 3s—as, though, I consider the essay by 'The Scribe' to be the better essay, yet with the errors in spelling I would not recommend that it should receive the whole of the prize."

Bullocky Bill had a cold so bad
That, though his language was very sad,
His team stood placidly chewing the cud,
While the wheels sank deeper into the mud.
WOODS' PEPPERMINT CURE his voice brought back,
When of classical speech there was no lack,
And his cattle took to their work with a will
'Neath the lurid appeals of Bullocky Bill.

In connection with the application of James Cuthbertson for the forfeiture of the Sons of Freedom Extended Gold Mining Company's lease (which was recently transferred to the Sons of Freedom Central Gold Mining Company), heard by Warden H. M. Murphy at the Beaufort Warden's Court on 2nd June, decision has been given by the Warden refusing the application of James Cuthbertson, and recommending that the lease be held by the Central Company. Mr. W. T. Gill appeared for James Cuthbertson, and Mr S. Young for the Extended and Central Companies.

The secretary of the Beaufort Football Club desires to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a donation of 5s from Mr G. H. Cougle towards the funds of the club.

For Bronchial Coughs take Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

So far returns from 49 electoral districts, and the public and railway services, have been received relative to the referendum on the Scripture in State school question. The vote against any alteration of the Act amounts to 70,874, while there are 49,296 in favor of alteration. On the second question of whether the scripture lessons recommended by the Royal Commission should be taught 61,746 electors answer in the affirmative, and 56,056 in the negative, while those in favor of the use of hymns and prayers number 62,148 and those against 55,145.

The Shire Elections.

In August next the members of the Riponshire Council who retire by effluxion of time are—Cr. T. Beggs (North riding), Cr. J. O'Shaughnessy, (East riding), and Cr. G. Lewis (West riding).

Bonnington's Irish Moss
The Universal Remedy for Colds, Bronchitis and Influenza. Sold Everywhere.

Riponshire Council.

MONDAY, 6TH JUNE, 1904.

Present—Crs. Stewart (president), Slater, Sinclair, O'Shaughnessy, Flynn, Douglas, Beggs, and Lewis.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

REFUSE OF UNUSED ROADS.

The engineer (Mr E. J. Muntz, B.C.E.) reported as under:—

(1). I beg to submit return under Act 1894 of unused roads in the shire. Owing to the magnitude of this return and the great length of roads in the shire, there are sure to be errors. These can be rectified from year to year. In reference to water frontages, I found that there were so few which were not already held under license that it was not worth while making a return. This could be done next year, when the work of making a return of the roads will be very much reduced. The totals were as under:—West riding—2302.8 acres, value £984 18s 4d. East riding—1154 acres, value £196 13s 7d. North riding—637.4 acres, value £99 4s 8. Total, 4094.2 acres, value £580 14s 3d.

Mr Muntz said that as a matter of fact he only found one water frontage that was not held under license. Half the revenue from the unused roads would be returned to the shire, thus giving a revenue of £340 odd.

Cr. Flynn thought this was very satisfactory, and before moving his motion for the adoption of the return, in accordance with notice given, impressed upon the engineer to hunt up those unused roads for next year, and thought the council should move in the matter of getting a return of the water frontages, as half the revenue from such also came to the council. Cr. Sinclair seconded the motion, which was carried, the engineer stating it had taken him six months to get the return of the unused roads, and that he had not had time to get that of the water frontages; and Cr. Flynn, considering it should be got, so that the council would know its position.

DISFRANCHISING RATEPAYERS.

The following is the legal opinion obtained from Messrs Cuthbert, Morrow & Must, solicitors of the Council, on the following facts:—In addition to a general rate of 1s in the £ (under sec. 264, Local Government Act 1903), the Riponshire Council has for some years levied under the provision of sec. 476 of the Local Government Act 1890 (now sec. 600 of Act 1903) a water rate of 1s in the £, with a minimum charge of 10s and additional charges for garden, horses, etc.), in the Beaufort township, portion of the North riding of the shire. The last order for this water rate was made on 1st Sept., 1902. You are therefore asked to advise—If the general rate be paid and the water rate and charges remain unpaid on the 11th June, 1904, does sec. 71 of the Local Government Act 1903 disfranchise such a ratepayer? In dealing with this question, attention is invited to the fact that there are a number of ratepayers who come under the minimum charge of 10s and extra charges in addition.

Opinion—Under section 71 of the Local Govt. Act 1903 it is made a condition precedent to the enrolment of any person on the ratepayers' roll that such person shall on the 10th of June in each year be liable to be rated for property within the municipal district, and that all sums payable in respect of any rates made on such property three months or more before the date specified shall have been paid. This latter condition is emphasised by the use of the same words in sec. 76 as to making up the rolls. In the absence of any provision to the contrary, the words "all sums payable in respect of any rates" cannot, in our opinion, be restricted, and therefore are applicable, not only to the general rate, but also to all rates made under the provisions contained on that behalf in the Local Government Acts. This being so, assuming the water rate to be properly made, any ratepayer who fails to pay his water rate before the 10th June, although he may have paid his general rate, is not, in our opinion, entitled to be enrolled. Sub-section 6 of section 600 of the Local Govt. Act, which is in the words following, appears to make clear the intention of the Legislature:—"Save when it is herein or in any law regulation or condition otherwise expressly provided or there is something in the context repugnant thereto all the provisions of this Act relating to rates shall apply to every such water rate." Before disfranchising any ratepayer in consequence of non-payment of the water rate and the additional charges imposed on those residing in the township of Beaufort, forming portion of the North riding of the Shire, the council should be satisfied that all the provisions of part 25 of the Act relating to water supply have been strictly complied with, and that the special order made in September, 1902, is valid, still subsisting, and not in any way prejudiced or affected by any subsequent Acts of the council. Having regard to the fact that it has been generally understood by the ratepayers that it was only for the non-payment of the general rate before the 10th June that they could be disfranchised, we would, for greater precaution, suggest that for the current year the same course that has been adopted for the past years should be followed, and that in all future notices served demanding payment of the water rates it should be notified to each ratepayer that non-payment of this rate before the 10th June in each year will preclude the defaulting ratepayer from being enrolled as a voter. Acting on this suggestion will prevent injustice being done to many ratepayers who may have been misled in the past by innocently believing that they could not be disfranchised in respect of non-payment of the water rate.—Received.

It was stated that this applied to Snake Valley as well as to Beaufort.

The engineer (who was acting as secretary in the absence through illness of Mr Carroll) supposed the secretary wanted instructions as to making up the roll.

Cr. Flynn said it was distinctly understood that the council would not enforce the matter this year. Notice had been sent to ratepayers that they were liable to be disfranchised if they did not pay their water rates by the 10th June. He did not want to move a motion which would retard the collection of the rates.

Cr. Lewis thought that any ratepayer who had not paid the water rate should be left off the roll, and let them apply to be enrolled at the Revision Court.

Cr. Flynn asked why should they depart from the usual practice.

Cr. Lewis replied that they had obtained a legal opinion since.

Cr. Flynn drew attention to the last clause in the legal opinion, suggesting that the same course as in the past be followed this year.

Cr. Lewis considered it was a question for the Revision Court to say whether these ratepayers should be disfranchised or not.

Cr. Beggs said that as one of the prime movers in having the notices sent out, and as the people did not know the law, he thought these ratepayers should not be disfranchised this year; but at the same time he pointed out that if a ratepayer objected to their enrolment the Revision Court would have no option but to strike them off. The council on its own account, however, should not disfranchise them, but allow them to be enrolled this year, as was their intention when the notices were sent out. Next year he would be as strong as anyone else in holding that the water rate should be paid by 10th June to entitle a ratepayer for enrolment.

Cr. Flynn, replying to Cr. Lewis, thought there was a great deal of difference between the council leaving ratepayers off the roll and letting them apply and the Revision Court doing so on an objection.

The engineer said it would not be wise to pass a resolution, but it still threw a great responsibility on the secretary.

Cr. Flynn said there was no more responsibility put on that officer than before, but that there would be more responsibility if he left them off.

It was understood that the secretary would enrol all ratepayers who had paid their general rates, even if the water rates were not paid, and that if any ratepayer liked to object the Revision Court could deal with them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From W. Ingram, Beaufort, complaining of the bad state of the road opposite his shops in Neill-street, and asking that grating and stone be removed, as they were dangerous for vehicles, and were an injury to his business.—Engineer instructed to get work done as quickly as possible.

From Stephen Whiting, Southern Cross, Beaufort, applying for permission to erect a fence on the Racecourse road, south and adjoining Adamthwaite's tribute block on the All Nations Consols lease.—To lie on table for a month, and applicant to be asked to supply a plan, on motion of Crs. Flynn and Douglas.

From Senior Constable A. Nicholson, health inspector, reporting that when inspecting the town on 28th ult., he noticed several matters which he deemed it his duty to bring under the notice of the council. The first objectionable thing he noticed was a pig kept on a baker's premises in the very centre of Beaufort; the stye was in anything but a cleanly condition. He also found that other residents kept pigs in the centre of the town. Secondly, he noticed in several places the house refuse, such as fish-heads, scales, old bones, potato-peeling, etc., were thrown about the yard—generally heaped in one corner. Thirdly, he noticed manure heaps in the very central and most populated portions of the town in a state of rottenness and decay. He submitted that the conditions mentioned were highly injurious to public health. He regretted to state there was a deal of sickness here at the present time amongst the residents, consequently he deemed it his duty to bring under the notice of the council any matter that might prove a menace to health. With a view to an improvement in that direction, he might be pardoned in submitting the following suggestions to the council:—1st. That the council take advantage of clause 9, part VIII, of thirteenth schedule of Local Government Act 1903, which regulates the limits of a place in which swine should be kept. He would suggest the town boundary as a limit. Secondly. That the house refuse be collected from the doors or back gates of residents, especially in the thickly populated portions of the town, carted away, and deposited at some recognised rubbish tip in a suitable part. There are plenty such places within easy access, consequently he did not think that such a service would prove very expensive. A weekly service would suffice. With permission of the council he intended prosecuting all persons within the town boundary who allow an accumulation of manure on their premises, so as to become a nuisance. He ventured to submit that if the suggestions made be given effect to the sanitary system, already an excellent one as far as the night service is concerned, would be very materially improved. He trusted these matters would receive favorable consideration.—The North riding members were appointed a committee to bring up a report at next meeting, on motion of Crs. Lewis and O'Shaughnessy.

From Municipal Association of Victoria, stating that matters brought before the last annual session of the Association by Riponshire Council have been dealt with as follows:—1. Leasing of Unused Roads.—The resolutions agreed to were brought under the notice of the Government, and subsequently the Unused Roads and Water Frontage Act was passed. 2. Timber from State Forests.—It was found to be impossible to get an amendment made in the Local Government Bill in regard to obtaining timber and other materials for road-making and other municipal works. 3. Joint Fund to assist in appealing against legal decisions.—The committee at its last meeting, after giving this suggestion very careful consideration, arrived at the conclusion that it would not be practicable to carry out such an arrangement, and will report to the next annual session accordingly. In regard to item 2, the council was asked whether it had ever made an application for the consent of the Minister under section 161 of the Land Act 1901, and if such application has been refused.—Secretary to reply giving council's experience with regard to applications for timber, which was practically refused, on motion of Crs. Flynn and Slater.

From Walter Wright, applying for a slaughtering license for premises at Green Hill, near Snake Valley.—Granted, under usual conditions, on motion of Crs. Flynn and Douglas.

From Department of Victorian Water Supply, asking whether the water reserve of 13 acres on Emu Creek, adjoining allots. 1, 4, and 5, section A, parish of Brewster, applied for by George Geoghan, can be leased without injury to water supply interests.—To lie on table for a month, on motion of Crs. Flynn and Douglas, the engineer stating this reserve was situated on the right hand side going to Carngham, near the Travellers' hotel. He thought the reserve on this side of the creek had already been reserved, although it had never come before the council. A man was fencing it in. The opinion was expressed that the reserve applied for was required for the use of travelling stock.

From Municipal Association, re polling places in shires, calling attention to the fact that section 131 of the Local Government Act 1903 provides that in shires the council shall appoint the polling places for municipal elections. The polling places appointed by the Governor-in-Council will probably be continued in most districts, but these places, or others, should be at once appointed by the council, otherwise elections held in August may be rendered invalid. Notes of amendments re annual elections were also given. A local auditor will not be elected in future.—Received.

From same, re Width of Tires Act, application to have any part of the act brought into force having to be made to the Governor-in-Council.—Received.

From A. C. Welsh, applying, on behalf of Beaufort Football Club, for permission to charge at the gates, under usual conditions, on 4th June, for match, Beaufort v. Warrak.—Action of Cr. Sinclair in granting permission endorsed, on motion of Crs Beggs and Flynn; Cr. Sinclair remarking that he had granted the permission in the interests of the council, as he thought a large revenue would be derived, but as the council's share (10 per cent. of the receipts) only amounted to 1s 6d, he thought they had made a mistake in not making a minimum fee of 5s for the right to charge admission to the Park.

From J. H. Slater, junr., Skipton, asking for a footpath from his gate to the Streatham road, a distance of a chain; also for a flat crossing over the drain.—To be attended to by engineer, on motion of Crs. Douglas and Stevenson.

From Public Health Department, asking for a report from health officer on condition of premises and of the milk, food and water supply in connection with eleven cases of typhoid fever at Beaufort, and also as to precautions adopted for preventing extension of the disease. Special reference should be made to the probable source of outbreak and measures adopted to render excreta innocuous.—Report to be sent to health officer, on motion of Crs. Sinclair and Flynn.

Dr. Eadie reported seven cases of typhoid fever at Beaufort during the past month.—Received.

From Clement Baker, Beaufort, requesting council to have a large tree removed from the street in front of his house, pointing out that it spoils his garden and shuts out the view of the house from the street, and that owing to the bursting of a water-pipe the roots on one side had been cut, thus tending to render it unsafe.—Referred to North riding members to deal with, on motion of Crs. Sinclair and Lewis; the engineer stating it was no use planting trees if they were going to remove them as they grew up.

From W. Hayward, Snake Valley, notifying that he had made a mistake of £10 in his tender for contract 267, that it should have been £19 5s, and that he could not possibly do the work for £9 5s.—Deposit to be forfeited, on motion of Crs. Flynn and Beggs, and that matter of calling fresh tenders be left in the hands of the East riding members.

(Cr. Lewis, having to catch the 12.30 p.m. train, here apologised for leaving.)

Postponed letter from Nazareth House, re supplying balance-sheet before charitable donation of £5 is sent from the Shire.—The engineer said he had looked up the minute book, but could not find a resolution that a balance-sheet had to be supplied before a charitable donation was sent. Cr. Flynn read extracts from a private letter received from Sister Clare, expressing sorrow that councillors had taken her letter in the wrong light altogether, and stating she thought that when some outside person heard the money was voted he asked the secretary to find out how the money was spent, and get a balance-sheet. Such a thing as offending the council never was meant. The circular she thought had been put in the waste paper basket, and if the secretary wrote she would be able to explain. During the discussion that followed, Cr. Flynn left the table. Cr. Slater thought that under the circumstances the best thing to do was to pay the money, and moved accordingly, which was seconded by Cr. Beggs. The President moved as an amendment that no money be paid till a balance-sheet be received. It was public money and not their own that they were giving away, and they should always receive a balance-sheet. He had always given to the Nazareth House when the collectors came round, and had promised to visit it, but had not yet had an opportunity. He thought the council should not give to any religious institution, and while admitting that the Nazareth House was doing good work, considered that if they gave to one they should give to all religious institutions that were doing as good work. Cr. Slater said the money had been passed, and this should have been thought of before. Cr. Douglas supported the President, because the same thing had been done with the Skipton Mechanics' Institute last year, and they should not make fish of one and flesh of another. It was an understanding that all should produce a balance-sheet, and that had always been done. Cr. Beggs supported the motion on the grounds that the council could not expect a balance-sheet from the Nazareth House. The President said they should not give anything then. Cr. Beggs said they should have thought of that at the time. Cr. Slater agreed with the President that no money should be given to a religious institution, but as this money had been passed it should be paid. The President altered his motion to read—"That the £5 be paid when the balance-sheet is received." He would do that for this year, but another year the charitable vote would have to be looked into. Cr. Sinclair contended that the £5 could not be paid till the motion on the books was rescinded. The engineer did not believe there was such a resolution on the books; there had not been one during his term of office. Cr. Sinclair said that should be found out, and perhaps it would make a lot of difference in the voting. The engineer suggested that the money be passed, provided that no such resolution was on the book. Cr. Sinclair thought the matter had better stand over till next meeting, so that they could find out whether the resolution was on the books or not. If there were no such resolution he was going to vote with the motion that the money be paid. Cr. Sinclair's suggestion was adopted, and the motion and amendment were withdrawn, after he had moved, and Cr. O'Shaugnessy had seconded, a motion (which was carried) instructing the secretary to search the minute book and see whether there was a resolution demanding a balance-sheet before any of the charitable vote was paid. The President gave notice that if the resolution referred to was not on the books he would move at next meeting that before any of the charitable vote is paid a balance-sheet be supplied.

From W. G. Baker, Snake Valley, re claim for 18s for arrears of rates on a house rented by him for a short time for Mrs Edwards, thinking the council would see it was unfair, and suggesting, as Mrs Edwards was a widow in straitened circumstances, it would be kind and considerate on the council's part to forego the arrears. He forwarded his indebtedness, viz., 10s.—Arrears to be remitted, on motion of Crs. Douglas and Stevenson.

REPORTS.

The engineer (Mr E. J. Muntz, B.C.E.) reported as under:—

(2). As the North riding members have decided to expend a certain sum of money on the main Ballarat road, I wish to draw attention to an agreement existing between the engineers re the maintenance of the road providing that the maintenance of the road be divided, each shire taking half the length of the road. (3). I regret to have to report the death of Mr Joel Tompkins, keeper of the Beaufort weighbridge, who died early last month.—Received. Clause 2—Referred to North riding members, with power to act, on motion of Crs. Flynn and Douglas. Clause 3—Cr. Sinclair moved that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs Tompkins, regretting the death of her husband, as an old servant of the shire. Seconded by Cr. Beggs, and carried. Cr. Flynn moved that an advertisement be inserted in the local paper stating particulars of remuneration, and calling for applications from persons eligible to carry on the work as weighbridge keeper, returnable at next meeting, and that in the meantime the engineer arrange for the work to be done. Seconded by Cr. Beggs, and carried.

The Treasurer (Mr E. J. Muntz) reported that £182 18s had been received and banked since last meeting, that £547 18s 10d had been paid away during May, that the bank balance was £933 13s 11d, as against £126 14s 9d at last report, and that the credit of the Vermin Destruction account was £41 8s.—Received and adopted, on motion of Crs. Flynn and Sinclair.

FINANCE.

The following accounts were passed for payment on the recommendation of the Finance Committee:—Salaries, £39 11s 8d; Mrs Hill, £1 10s; G. Carver, 15s; A. Parker, 19s 6d; W. G. Stevens, £7 4s; W. Tompkins, £1 19s 9d; D. D. Cameron, £2 15s; C. Wright, £9 19s 6d; Treasurer (Victoria (Vermin Destruction loans and interest), £38 8s 1d; J. Whitfield, £3 8s; C. Ball, £8; W. Day, £6; Goudy & Kent, 9s; E. Schlicht, £1 17s; C. Wright, 10s; W. Driver, £3; T. Nugent, £10 10s; T. Cleveland, £2 6s 8d; W. Scarf, £6; J. Gillespie, £8 8s; R. Ward, £1 1s 2d; J. Tait, £3; H. M. Stuart, £2 15s 10d; W. C. Fedder, 10s; Broadbent Bros., £6 14s 6d; Hawkes Bros., £11 0s 7d; S. George, £8. Contract payments—Hawkes Bros., £1 15s 8d; J. Bell, £10; J. Carmichael, £16 16s; Simper & Brown, £40; W. B. Madden, £11 3s; D. Madden, £77 10s; T. Greenbank, £18 5s; C. Broadbent, £20. Contract deposit—W. B. Madden, £1. Total, £297 2s 11d.

Cr. Flynn regretted feeling obliged to refer to an account for £11 for ironmongery that had escaped his notice while in committee. These items were not at scheduled rates, and when they called for tenders it was understood that the engineer had made out a schedule for all likely requirements. Now they found an account for £11, and to say the least the charge was excessive. He could not understand why these items had not been scheduled. As he moved that the accounts be recommended for payment, he would not say any more about it.

The engineer explained that these things would be altered at once. The surfacemen had been getting things without his order, but he had stopped them. There were several things that could have been got under the contract, instancing the biggest item, wire-netting, which was scheduled, but under a different gauge. He had not had any cause to complain about the surfacemen getting things before. There was only one article for which he considered the price was excessive.

Cr. Flynn thought he was justified in bringing the matter up, seeing that some councillors had fought so hard for the local tenderer, and seeing how he had taken advantage of it.

MOTION BY NOTICE.

Cr. Beggs moved, pursuant to notice, that the same by-law in operation in Warrnambool Shire for regulating speed of motor cars, motor cycles, and bicycles, and providing for the proper control and management thereof, be adopted. Seconded by Cr. Slater, and carried; the rate of speed for the town being 8 miles per hour, and for roads outside 16 miles an hour.

The engineer was authorized to sign cheques for three months, on motion of Crs. Sinclair and O'Shaughnessy, and the council rose.

Beaufort Brass Band.

The annual meeting of the Beaufort Brass Band was held in the Mechanics' Institute on Wednesday evening; Mr J. R. Wotherspoon (president) in the chair, and a good attendance of members and hon. members present.

The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From Victorian Band Association, re delegates attending their meetings; also later, stating that owing to Member Baker playing at the Ararat band competition, when he was not a registered member, a fine of 10s had been inflicted. The secretary stated that the secretary of the association did not inform him of the night of their meeting, and as it was held on the night on which the band practised, it was impossible to attend it. As regards the fine of 10s, he felt confident that at the time of the competition at Ararat Baker was a registered member. Mr Hill moved that the fine be paid. Seconded by Mr Jaensch; the mover stating that Baker had been a member, and after leaving the district for a while came back and again joined the band. At the same time Ararat had played a professional, who was not a member of the band, and yet there was nothing said of it. Mr W. Pedder moved as an amendment that the matter be held over for an explanation from the association until their next monthly meeting. Seconded by Mr Jones, and carried.

From J. A. Harris, tendering his resignation as a member of the band.—Held over for consideration later on, members thinking it advisable to elect players who had previously been members on a reserve list and no charge to be made to them.

The secretary read the balance-sheet (audited by Messrs Meuzies and McDonald) showing a credit balance of £11 4s 9d, which was received and adopted.

An amount of £2 5s (overpaid into the bank by the secretary) was ordered to be refunded.

The secretary read his report as follows:

It gives me much pleasure in presenting to you the balance-sheet of the Beaufort Brass Band for the year ending May 30th. Although the receipts for the past year were not so big as in previous years, I think the year has been a most successful one. The expenditure was in keeping with the receipts, which were as follows: Receipts, £88 18s 1d; expenditure, £75 5s 1d; leaving a credit balance of £15 18s, less liabilities of £4 13s 3d, leaving a nett credit balance of £11

OUTCAST OF M

PART 8.

CHAPTER XV.

ALONE!

On the third morning Orlan
feeling to feel as strong as he
his life.
"Only," he said, "I feel the
air and exercise. I cannot
much longer. If the Saxon
his appearance soon, we must
way out of Lombardy."
The truth was, our hero
grow restive under restraint.
like to wear a yoke. He did
idea of holding himself under
a man whose purposes were
him. He believed that Gaspar
—that Gaspard meant to as
he liked not to thus acknowle
authority. Or, perhaps ther
thing deeper than this: He n
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the mountain. I have thought
bow, and pursuing some game
"Aye, gladly," interrupted
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"But there is one thing
Marco. "You must not wand
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safe as safe can be; but I cann
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princess. "You will not be g
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Our hero gladly embraced the
and when he was ready to set
Rosabel's hand and pressed it
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said, gazing up with anxious f
his face.
"Aye, Rosabel; and I was
the same injunction upon you.
"O, be not anxious on my a
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"And when I do come, swee
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arrived upon a level table o
three sides of which arose
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much labor must not be lost.
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Rosabel pushed her way thre
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Rosabel asked, as the conver
to legitimately approach that
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"O—it might have been o
polita. I need not have ple
hand had it pleased me other
"Ah—but, my dear mistr
are left to our own will, we a
give our hand where our hear
"But, Hippolita, I need
my heart."
The attendant shook her h
"The heart is not a creatu
lady. The heart of the ma
slave of her choice. Rather
the slave of her heart. If y
seen Orlando Vendorme, or if
spoken to him, it might ha
ent; but such a man once see
is sure to be loved. In all Lo
not seen his equal. Ah, lady
blessed."
Rosabel bowed her head, f
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master whom I served, I was
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"leads me to ask what step
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"No," replied Rosabel.
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of Crs. Douglas and Stevenson

REPORTS.

ngineer (Mr E. J. Muntz, B.C
as under :—
As the North riding members
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eers re the maintenance of the
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ad. (3). I regret to have to re
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h.—Received. Clause 2—Refe
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—Cr. Sinclair moved that a lette
be sent to Mrs Tompkins, reg
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ed. Cr. Flynn moved that
ment be inserted in the local pap
articulars of remuneration, and c
plications from persons eligible
the work as weighbridge keep
at next meeting, and that in
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easurer (Mr E. J. Muntz) report
18s had been received and bank
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d and adopted, on motion of C
Sinclair.

FINANCE.

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£1 10s; G. Carver, 15s; A
6d; W. G. Stevens, £7 4s; W
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Vermin Destruction loans and
38 8s 1d; J. Whitfield, £8 8s
W. Day, £6; Goudy & Kor
nlight, £1 17s; C. Wright, 10s
£3: T. Nugent, £10 10s; T
£2 6s 8d; W. Scarf, £6; J
8s; R Ward, £1 1s 2d; J
H. M. Stuart, £2 15s 10d; W
10s; Broadbent Bros., £6 14
es Bros., £11 0s 7d; S. George
act payments—Hawkes Bros., £
Bell, £10; J. Carmichael, £1
er & Brown, £40; W. B. Madden
Madden, £77 10s; T. Greenbank
Broadbent, £20. Contract
B Madden, £1. Total, £297
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TION BY NOTICE.

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a nett credit balance of £11.

OUTCAST OF MILAN

PART 8.

CHAPTER XV.

ALONE!

On the third morning Orlando arose, professing to feel as strong as he ever felt in his life.

"Only," he said, "I feel the need of fresh air and exercise. I cannot remain here much longer. If the Saxon does not make his appearance soon, we must make our own way out of Lombardy."

The truth was, our hero had begun to grow restive under restraint. He did not like to wear a yoke. He did not like the idea of holding himself under the control of a man whose purposes were unknown to him. He believed that Gaspard was honest—that Gaspard meant to assist him—but he liked not to thus acknowledge Gaspard's authority. Or, perhaps there was something deeper than this: He may not have been satisfied with the manner in which Gaspard kept his own counsel. It may not have pleased him that the Saxon had concealed from him so much important matter. However, be that as it may, the knight was uneasy; and, but for the earnest appeal of Marco Pazzoli, which had some effect upon the decision of Rosabel, he would have departed on this very morning for the north.

"I don't know," said the hunter, after breakfast had been disposed of, "but that you might take a turn with me further up the mountain. I have thought of taking my bow, and pursuing some game."

"Aye, gladly," interrupted Rosabel, who saw that her lover needed the exercise.

"But there is one thing more," added Marco. "You must not wander away from the cave. Within these walls you are as safe as safe can be; but I cannot answer for the result of your wandering off."

"You need not fear for us," returned the princess. "You will not be gone long?"

"Not more than two or three hours."

"That is not longer than you were gone on the afternoon of the day of our arrival, when Sir Orlando was helpless; and if there was no danger then there can be none now."

"Certainly not," replied the hunter; and then turning to Vendorme, he added, "I think, sir, you need the exercise, and if you will make preparation, we will soon be off. I have an extra bow and plenty of arrows."

Our hero gladly embraced the opportunity, and when he was ready to set forth he took Rosabel's hand and pressed it to his lips.

"You will be very careful," the maiden said, gazing up with anxious fondness into his face.

"Aye, Rosabel; and I was about to lay the same injunction upon you."

"O, be not anxious on my account. It is you who are going into danger. You will find us all safe when you come back."

"And when I do come, sweet love, I hope I may bring some trophy worthy of your acceptance." He pressed her hand to his lips again, and then followed Pazzoli from the cavern.

For half an hour the two girls sat together in the great cave, their conversation running upon a great many different topics; and at the end of that time Rosabel suggested the idea of going to the entrance, and looking out upon the clear sky.

"We will not wander away," she said, "nor will we go from the cave itself."

"Surely," replied Hippolita "there can be no possible harm in that. Why—of course there cannot," she continued, gaining confidence from her own reason. "We are safe because we are in a cavern; we are safe because the cavern is a secret place; and the cavern is a secret place simply because people do not know where the entrance is. So, it is very plain that we should be just as safe at the entrance of the cave as we are in here."

This reasoning was so plain and self-evident that the princess at once arose and led the way to the mouth of the cave. But when they had reached that point they were no better off than before, for a dense mass of interwoven vine shut them in from any extended view. Upon one hand, however, they saw an open space, and a way which seemed to lead up to the roof of the cavern. Surely there could be no harm in going up there. They would not venture out beyond the cover of their retreat; but this way, so narrow and so rugged, was evidently within the secret place. It might lead to the top of the rock, whence they could obtain a grand view. Rosabel started up first. She had to move very carefully, clambering from stone to stone, clinging by roots and rocky points; and at length she arrived upon a level table of rock, upon three sides of which arose perpendicular walls, while upon the fourth was a net-work of shrub and vine, growing out from a crevice, very much like that which guarded the mouth of the cavern. Of course, so much labor must not be lost. If they could pass this barrier they would in all probability gain a view of the mountains, and perhaps look off upon the distant country. Rosabel pushed her way through, and she was not disappointed. She stood upon a broad table of rock, with the mountain peaks towering in sublime grandeur above her on one hand, while upon another she gazed off upon the plains and rivers. It was a wild scene, and for a long time the two adventurers gazed in silence.

"We will not go any further," said Rosabel.

"We had better not," replied Hippolita.

"No, we will sit here and enjoy the scene, and breathe the fresh air. I suppose, if we were so inclined, we could wander away as far as we pleased, for I doubt not but some of the passes are open. But we will remain here. I will not forget my promise to Sir Orlando."

The girls sat down upon a loose fragment of rock, and after discussing various matters connected with the scenery, the conversation turned upon their flight from Milan. The princess had discovered that her companion possessed an intellect of uncommon clearness; that she was endowed with a good share of wit; and, furthermore, she had found her true-hearted and kind; and hence she had come to trust her with the deepest thought of her soul.

"Were you surprised when I told you that I had pledged my hand to the knight?" Rosabel asked, as the conversation seemed to legitimately approach that point.

"Indeed I was not, lady. I knew that it must be so. How could it be otherwise?"

"O—it might have been otherwise, Hippolita. I need not have pledged him my hand had it pleased me otherwise."

"Ah—but, my dear mistress, when we are left to our own will, we are very sure to give our hand where our heart is gone."

"But, Hippolita, I need not have given my heart."

The attendant shook her head.

"The heart is not a creature of the will, lady. The heart of the maiden is not the slave of her choice. Rather the choice is the slave of her heart. If you had never seen Orlando Vendorme, or if you had never spoken to him, it might have been different; but such a man once seen and known, is sure to be loved. In all Lombardy I have not seen his equal. Ah, lady, your love is blessed."

Rosabel bowed her head, for this last remark touched her deeply. Hippolita waited a little while and then resumed:

"As I compared the noble young knight whom I had led to the dungeon with the master whom I served, I was so worked upon that I could have laid down my life to save the victim. And, lady, I might not have dared to come to you for aid had I not known you loved him. Ah, your love was not a secret."

"You speak truly," said Rosabel. "I gave Vendorme my heart when I first knew him; and I have now only to pray that no calamity may overtake us. I ask not to have back my wealth or my titles. I leave them all behind, content never to see my native land again, so that my love is safe."

"Speaking of this," remarked Hippolita, "leads me to ask what steps you mean to take in the future. Do you know whither the saxon means to lead us?"

"No," replied Rosabel. "I only know that he has proved a friend thus far, and I am willing to trust him. And I am the more ready to follow him because I know that he serves those whom Manfred fears and hates."

"You speak of the Saxon knights?"

"Yes."

"And you speak truly, my dear lady. I overheard de Castro and Ludovico talking on that very subject. They spoke particularly of the youthful count, Theodore; and I know that they were troubled exceedingly. Ha!"

"What is it?"

"Mercy!"

The girls started to their feet, and a cry of horror escaped from their lips as a human being came tumbling down from one of the high crags close at hand. It was a man, and he fell near where they stood. They had heard him first—had heard him utter a cry of alarm; and as they looked up they saw him just losing his hold upon the treacherous rock high above them. For some moments they were utterly paralyzed, though not with fear. The sight of the bruised and senseless fellow-creature excited their keenest sympathy, and as soon as the startling shock had passed they moved to the sufferer's assistance. He was a light-framed, middle-aged man, habited in a garb of chamois skin, and upon his back was an empty quiver.

"It is some poor hunter," said Hippolita, "who has been ranging the mountains in quest of game. I hope he is not dead."

Without thought of danger to herself the princess knelt by the stranger, and raised his head upon her lap. There was a wound upon his temple, and he must have been bruised in other places. Rosabel spoke to him, but he made no answer, nor did he betray any sign of consciousness.

"There is life in his heart," she said looking up into her attendant's face, "and if we had him in the cavern we might revive him. If he remains here he may die."

"We can carry him down," returned Hippolita. "He is not heavy, and the distance is short."

"We will carry him down," added Rosabel. "The life of a fellow-creature must not be lost while we have power to save it."

With this generous motive the girls lifted the senseless form from the rock, and bore it down by the way they had ascended. It was a difficult task, and many times did they slip, and come near falling; but a noble fortitude gave them uncommon strength, and finally they reached the mouth of the cave, where they were forced to stop and take breath. After a little while they bore their burden in, and when they had fixed a bed and a pillow, Hippolita brought water and some cordial. The wound upon the temple was washed, the brow bathed, and the hands chafed; and ere long the sufferer opened his eyes. In a little while his senses had so far returned to him that he raised himself upon his elbow, and asked where he was.

"You are safe, and in good hands," replied Rosabel. "Partake of this, and you will feel better."

She extended to him a cup of wine, which he drank at a draught; and very soon afterwards he sat up and gazed curiously upon his nurses.

"Am I dead?" he muttered, "or do angels inhabit these mountains? What has happened? How is it that I am here?"

"You slipped and fell upon the rocks," said Rosabel, "and we chanced to be near enough to pick you up."

"And who are you?" the man asked looking sharply into the face of the princess.

"That I am a friend, sir, I think I have already shown. Further than that it could not benefit you to know."

"Pardon me, lady. I meant not to be inquisitive." He gazed upon her a moment more—gazed from her face to her fine apparel, and upon the resplendent jewel that sparkled upon her bosom, and then added, in an easy tone—"Yes, yes—I remember. I was pursuing a wild goat—I had fired an arrow—I was eager for the game—I placed my foot upon a treacherous rock, and fell. That is the last until I find myself here. But I think I have not been badly hurt. This blow upon my head stunned me—that was all. My limbs are sound." And thus speaking he arose and walked to and fro across the cave. "My dear ladies, how can I recompense you for what you have done?"

"We have our recompense already, sir, in having done some little good. But, if you would do us a favor, you will forget that you have ever seen us."

"Fair lady, that were impossible."

"You know my meaning, sir."

"Pardon me. I understand. My lips are sealed. But—are you here alone?"

"We have companions at hand. They have been hunting, as you were; but they must be here very soon. Will you rest until they come?"

"I ought not. I have left friends down the mountain who will be anxious. Will you give me one more cup of your wine?"

Rosabel gave him the wine, and when he had drank it he said that he must go.

"I am strong enough to walk down the mountain, but there is a ringing in my head which warns me that I may need nursing to-night. Upon my life, fair ladies, it would afford me joy to remain with you, but I must not. I thank you a thousand times for the service you have rendered. I shall never forget it; and until chance shall throw the opportunity in my way for some return of the favor, my gratitude must suffice. I think I can find my way out."

When he reached the mouth of the cave he saw the path which led through the mass of vines, and without stopping to speak again with the girls, he pushed his way out, and was soon lost to sight.

Rosabel was the first to speak after the stranger had gone.

"I hope no harm can come of this."

"We could not have done differently," said Hippolita.

"We might have nursed the stranger away from the cave," suggested the princess; "and we might have found out who he was."

"I don't think there can be any danger, my dear mistress. He is evidently one of the village hunters. At all events, I think we did but our duty."

Now that the man had gone, both the girls found time to reflect upon consequences; and though they tried to assure each other, still it was very evident that they had fears which were not expressed.

"We will not worry," said Rosabel; "but when Orlando returns we will tell him what has happened, and he may do what he thinks proper."

By and by the hunters came back, bringing with them a goodly lot of game, and while Orlando was telling the story of their excursion over the mountains, Marco prepared the dinner, for it was past the hour of noon. Rosabel did not yet say anything about the stranger who had been in the cave, thinking that she would wait until she could speak with her lover alone. The dinner was eaten, and after the things had been cleared away, Orlando and Marco went out from the cave, and shortly afterwards the knight came back alone.

"Now," he said, taking a seat by Rosabel's side, "we will pass away the hours as best we can. Marco has gone down the mountain, and will not return until to-morrow. O, how much better I feel for my exercise. I am strong again, love—as strong as when I smote down Hugh de Castro in the list."

"And I have had the fresh air, Orlando."

"Ah—have you?"

"Yes. Hippolita and I found our way to the top of our cavern."

"Ah,—I am glad if you enjoyed it."

"But we had an adventure." And thereupon Rosabel told to her lover all that had happened—forgetting nothing—relating everything, even to the words which the stranger had spoken.

Orlando was startled; and it was plain to be seen that the event had made him uneasy, though he would not speak his feelings.

"We meant no harm," said Rosabel. "It was I who led the way out from the cave; and when the poor man was left helpless at our feet we could not leave him to suffer."

"Dearest Rosabel," replied Orlando, taking her hand, "if you have erred, it has surely been on the side of a noble duty. God forbid that I should blame you. And yet I wish it had not so happened. I wish the stranger had not been thrown upon your mercy. But let us say no more about it. On the morrow we shall leave this place, whether the Saxon returns or not, and until then we will cheer ourselves with pleasant hopes."

And thus did the knight try to dispose of the subject of the stranger's visit to the cave, but he could not so easily throw it from his mind. More than once during the afternoon was he lost in reflection upon it, and when his companion asked him why he looked so serious, he tried to laugh away her suspicions.

Supper time came, and Hippolita set the table, and cleared it away again. The evening passed, and when Rosabel arose to retire, the knight pressed her hand to his lips.

"Sweet angels guard and preserve you," he said. His voice trembled, and he held her hand for some moments after he had spoken.

"All will be right to-morrow," replied the paincess. "God bless you." She raised her face to his, and he kissed her lips. And then she went away to her little apartment, followed by Hippolita.

For an hour after this did Vendorme keep watch in the cave, but at length he grew tired and sleepy, and concluded to seek his couch. He went out to the entrance, where all was still and quiet, and when he came back he retired to his sleeping apartment.

"I wish they had not brought that stranger into the cave," he said, as he cast himself upon his bed.

By and by he slept, and he dreamed that the stranger came back to the cave in the shape of a fiery dragon, and carried off the princess. He started up in terror, but it was only a wild fancy. He lay awake for a long time, but finally fatigue overpowered him, and this time he slept more soundly.

He slept an hour—perhaps two hours—and then he awoke again. This time he heard a sharp cry, as of some one in distress—a cry for mercy—for help. Did he dream again? No; for now, as he sat up, with his senses clear, he heard the sound of feet, and a smothered groan. It was distant from him, but he could hear it plainly. As quickly as possible he leaped from his bed, and made his way out into the great cavern, but all was dark and silent as Erebus there. He called the name of Rosabel—called it twice—thrice, but no reply. He ventured into the place where the lady and her attendant had slept, and called again, and yet no answer. He laid his hand upon the couch, and no one was there. Quickly as possible he struck a light, and examined the cavern in all its parts.

He was alone, and Rosabel was gone! He called her name once more—called out in the deep agony of his tortured soul—and the answer was only the echoes of his own voice from the vaulted arches of the gloomy cavern.

CHAPTER XVI.

COMPANIONS ON THE ROAD.

Vendorme's first thought, as soon as he was composed enough to think, was of the stranger who had been taken into the cave. Through his agency the enemy had come and borne the princess away. With swift movements he donned his outer clothing, and buckled on his sword; and then, having lighted the lantern which Marco had left, he made his way from the cave. For some distance he followed the path by which he had been led on his ascent, and at length he reached a point where a bed of soft sand had been washed across the way. He stopped here and examined the tracks—some of them were fresh, and upon these he bestowed particular attention. He found footprints revealing the recent passage of six persons over the sand—two of them were delicate prints, made by the feet of a woman; and all had gone down the mountain. With rapid strides the knight sprang over the rocks where the way was remembered; but more than once he was forced to retrace his steps upon finding himself in places where all forward movement was cut off.

At length it was evident that he had lost his way. He went back a piece, and became more involved than before. A little while he reflected, and then resolved to push on down the declivity; believing that he must come out at the foot of the mountain at some time. It was a severe task, but he kept persistently on. Over rocks; through thick masses of tangled vine; down steep gorges; sometimes forced to back out from impassable chasms; and often stumbling and falling. At length he lost his lantern; and after hours of toil he found himself in a situation where he gave up in despair. He was shut in by towering cliffs, unable to find the path by which he had entered; and enveloped in a darkness as black and impenetrable as the closed tomb. Many times he tried to make his way out, and as many times did he fail. In the end he was forced to give up, and throw himself upon the hard rocks for rest. When daylight came he arose, and finally succeeded in freeing himself from the trap; and after laboring an hour longer he reached the foot of the mountain, and soon afterwards gained the river. He was nearly opposite the village, and not far from where he stood was a small boat. He gained this, and upon reaching the opposite bank the first person he met was Marco Pazzoli.

"In heaven's name," cried the hunter, as soon as he was sure that his eyes did not deceive him, "what does this mean? Are you Orlando Vendorme?"

"In truth I am."

"Good sir knight, you are mad!"

"By saint Paul, you speak the truth, Marco. I am mad. Enough has happened to drive angels to madness. The princess of Bergamo is lost?"

"What! Dead!"

"No. She has been snatched away from the cavern. They came last night, while I slept, and dragged her off. I heard the noise; but before I could follow they were beyond my reach. I started in pursuit and lost my way, and here I am. O, Marco, have you not seen them? Have you not heard something?"

"In the name of wonder," gasped the hunter, seeming almost inclined to believe that the knight was crazy, "how could it have happened? Who could have found the cave?"

"Ah, Marco, there is the trouble. You did not know it when you went away yesterday; and I did not know it until after you were gone. The girls conveyed a stranger into the cavern. Hold. Let me tell you how it was."

And thereupon Orlando related, in as few words as possible, the story which Rosabel had told to him concerning the unfortunate hunter; and concluded by relating more particularly the events of the past night.

"I fear," said Marco, after listening to the account, "that the lady has fallen into the hands of an enemy. But let us go to my cot. It is not far away; and there we can talk while you rest."

The hunter's dwelling was upon the outskirts of the village, and when they reached it, Marco led the way to an apartment where they could be alone, and where refreshment was soon provided.

"Did Rosabel give you any description of the man whom she took into the cave?" asked the host, while our hero was eating.

"Yes," replied Vendorme. "He was a small, light-framed man; of middle age; with a piercing black eye, and long, flowing hair; and habited in a garb of chamois skin."

"Ah—I know the fellow well," said Marco. "He is a spy of the robber band that infest the mountains. And I may tell you now what I have not told you before: These robbers have been searching for you. They have been seen hovering around the village; they have been scouring the country beyond here; and some of their messengers have been making inquiries of the peasants. It is very plain that the lady Rosabel has fallen into their hands. The spy could never have found the cave but for that wonderful accident. It is very bad."

"It is terrible!" cried Vendorme, smiting his fist upon his bosom. "But I must not remain here idle."

"What would you do, sir knight?"

"Give pursuit to the villains."

"Do you think it possible to overcome them as you are now?"

"That is not the question of a brave man."

"But it is a proper question for a wise man, Sir Orlando—if you will pardon the freedom. But I have a better plan. If you will wait here, I will go out and make inquiries; and if the princess has been taken towards Milan I can easily find it out. Will you trust thus much to me?"

"You will not be long?"

"No. I have a fleet horse."

"Then go."

"But you will remain here."

"Yes—I will wait a reasonable time."

The hunter went away, and for two hours Orlando was alone in the cot. He was becoming almost tired of the task, and was pacing nervously to and fro across the narrow apartment, when his host returned.

"What news?"

"First," said Marco, taking a seat as he spoke "you must answer me a question. Do you think it possible that the Duke of Milan could engage the robbers to assist him?"

"Why not?" returned Orlando. "These robbers will work for anybody who will pay them."

"Ah, but you misunderstand me. I know the robbers would work for him; but would he engage them? Would Manfred of Milan give his work into the hands of outlaws?"

"Oho—you don't know the villainous tyrant if you ask such a question. I believe these robbers have been in his employ, more or less, for years. I know that the captain of his guard has employed them. Aye—and I know more: I know that men have served in the ducal guard, and been members of the robber band at one and the same time."

"Then," said Marco, "I can tell you where the lady Rosabel has gone. A party of the robber knights, four in number, have borne her to Milan. They crossed the Saveso, just above Monzo, before daylight this morning. And of course," he added, after a pause "the question of her whereabouts can no longer be an open one."

"No," groaned Orlando, pressing his hands together. "It is as my worst fear pointed. What—what can we do?"

"Why not wait for the coming of the Saxon?" suggested Marco.

"But who knows when he will come? I may wait here a week, and in that time Rosabel's fate is sealed. By heaven, she should die ere that. I cannot do it. If she would live, I must act."

"And what will you do, sir knight? It is not for me to dictate; nor do I know that I can properly advise. Gaspard came to me, and asked me to conduct you to a safe retreat, where you could remain until he returned. I did as he wished; and I think you will admit that, but for an unforeseen accident, all would have gone as I had planned."

"Aye, Marco, I admit more than that," cried the knight, who was touched by his host's keen disappointment. "If all had been done as you ordered, this thing might not have happened. The blame must rest upon me. I ought not to have left the females alone in the cave. But it is too late to think of these things. I must go to Milan."

"Can you do anything, when once there commensurate with the risk you run?"

"Yes—yes," exclaimed the knight, striding across the floor. "I can die in a true cause. That is something. But I think I can do more. I have friends in Milan. I believe I can stir up a rebellion that shall shake the ducal throne! Marco—I go to Milan!"

"But not now, sir. If you must go, had you not better wait until night? You should understand the reason for such a course."

"You are right, good Marco. I will wait until the shadow falls again, and under its cover I will go. You will have a horse ready for me?"

"Yes."

It was a long, tedious day for Orlando Vendorme; but he worried through the creeping hours as best he could, and when the shadows of evening began to fall, he was anxious to be off.

"A horse is ready for you," said Marco Pazzoli, after they had eaten supper, "but there is danger in your way."

"I know there is danger, and I am ready to meet it. I have lived in the midst of danger for months. But if you have brought for me a fleet horse, I fear not."

"I have procured one of the fleetest to be found."

"That is enough; and now I am off. Why do you hold on upon me?"

"Sir Knight, I would have you fully appreciate the danger you are to meet. The robbers must be lying in wait for you; and now that the princess is found, they will have narrower limits for their search. If I thought I could be of assistance to you, I would willingly go with you."

"I thank you, Marco; but your company is not needed. It would be of no use. Now let me go."

The hunter still held on upon the knight's arm.

"Sir Orlando, I must say my say, even though it offend you. I do not like to see you start off. A day can make no difference, and by another sun the Saxon may be here."

"What care I for the Saxon?" cried Vendorme, pulling himself away from the grasp of his host. "I have listened to him too much already. If I had not minded him I might have been—"

"Where?"

"Far from here at all events. But enough of that. I suppose the Saxon did what he thought was best, and I thank him; but I do not choose to hang like a dependent upon him. I am off for Milan, and my good sword shall insure me a path. Farewell, good Marco—and if we ever meet again I will recount to you my adventures."

"And," returned the hunter, with a dubious shake of the head, "if I am not greatly deceived, you will have adventures enough before you reach Milan. But I need not warn you more. I can only pray that you may reach the city in safety."

"Mine be the risk," said Vendorme, moving towards the door.

As they reached the little door they were met by Pazzoli's wife, who had a garment in her hand.

"I came near forgetting that," said Marco; "for I had hoped that there might be no occasion for it. Your doublet, sir knight, is very conspicuous, and I have thought this peasant's frock and hat might be of service to you."

Orlando readily accepted the offer; and when he had pulled on the frock, and exchanged his plumed cap for the wide-rimmed hat, he stepped out and was soon in the saddle.

"Farewell, Marco."

"God be with thee!" was the hunter's response.

Orlando left the village at an easy trot, and as soon as the country was open before him, he started his horse into a gallop. The night was not quite so dark as he could have wished. A moon, four days old, hung in the western heavens, and though fleecy clouds were sweeping over it, yet the light was very palpable. However, this seeming trouble had its advantage—it rendered the road more plain, so that the rider could dash on with less risk of stumbling. At the end of an hour he struck into a deep wood which stretched along through a valley, and when he emerged from this he ascended a steep acclivity, at the brow of which he was brought up by half a dozen horsemen who had arranged themselves across the path. He would have dashed on past them, but his horse refused to go.

"Hallo! Who is this?"

It was this call from one of the strangers that had led the knight's horse to stop, and an application of the spur only caused him to rear and plunge.

"Who are you?"

When our hero found that his beast would not be urged on, he replied to the summons:

"I am from Como, and I am in haste, too."

"And who are you when in Como?"

"A poor peasant, as you may see."

"A sharp spur you wear for a peasant."

"I arm my heels as I please, sirs. Will you let me pass?"

At that moment the moon, which was close down upon the horizon, looked out from behind the flying clouds, and Orlando saw that his opponents were armed banditti. But the moon had not favored him alone with clearer vision. The robbers, even, had the advantage, for while their backs were towards the gleaming orb, he was facing it.

"Ha, ha, my master!" cried one of them.

"What now, villains?"

"Sir Orlando Vendorme—we have been waiting for you!"

Our hero drew his sword, and as the robbers gathered about him he sought to defend himself; but his horse was not used to such work. The animal reared and plunged again, and refused to come near to the armed villains. Now, perhaps the restive beast might be urged forward, and make recompense by his speed for his shortcomings. Vendorme shortened the rein, and plied the spur; but he was doomed to disappointment, for one of the robbers, who had quietly dismounted, glided up and plunged a javelin deep behind the horse's shoulder. Our hero saw the act, and as his animal staggered under him, he sought to leap from the saddle. He cleared his right foot from the stirrup; but, unfortunately, the skirt of his peasant's frock had been pinned to the horse's side by the javelin, and when he left his seat he was dangling beneath the beast's belly; and, in a moment more the animal fell, crushing him helpless upon the earth.

"By the mass," cried one of the robbers, "I didn't think we'd capture him so easily."

"He's fast sure enough," responded another.

It was now Orlando's turn to speak, and he used his speech in begging for help. The dead horse was resting upon his legs in such a way as to give him most exquisite torture, and he involuntarily groaned for assistance. Three of the robbers pulled the horse away, while the other three stood ready to secure the prisioner, which they did without much difficulty; for the youth was so racked with pain that he had no thought of resistance. In fact, before he fairly realized that the torturing weight had been removed from his limbs, he had been rolled over upon his breast, and his arms drawn up and lashed behind him. In a little while afterwards, he was raised to a sitting posture, and asked if he could stand.

"Not yet," he replied. He gazed around upon his captors, and finally asked what they meant.

"We mean enough!" returned the leader. "We haven't forgotten the kindly turn you did us when we fell upon the Saxon knights! Have you forgotten that, my master?"

"No—I remember it very well, but I do not believe that is all you have against me. You are not the men to take such trouble for simple revenge. I know you better."

"By our lady you are right, Vendorme. But enough of that. You are our prisoner, and you won't find it easy to escape us. We have been looking for you. We saw you cross the river this morning, and go into the village with Marco Pazzoli, and we believed you would start for Milan before the night was past. But my bold knight, we did not count upon so cheap a victory. We expected some hard knocks, and were prepared to sell one or two lives for the reward—"

"Speak on. What reward?"

"Never mind."

"You have said enough," cried Vendorme. "I know very well who is your master."

"Be careful and not know too much. And now, Sir Champion, if you think you can sit upon a horse, we'll be moving."

"Whither?"

"You shall find that out in due time. Only let me say this; you'll fare best if you are quiet."

The prisoner really had no choice otherwise, for his hands were secured behind him, and his legs were so weak from the strain they had received that he could scarcely stand. He was lifted upon the back of a horse, the owner of the animal walking by his side to hold him on, and thus led away by a narrow, dark path, into the wood.

(To be Continued).

A PARALYSING SUGGESTION.

Shortly after the death of Sir Edward Burne-Jones, the English artist, a well-known Washington man, was talking in a party of the time that Sir Edward appeared as a witness in the famous suit brought by Whistler against Ruskin for libel.

"I remember," he said, "the joke on an English commission appointed to buy a genuine Titian for the benefit of students studying colour and colouring. Some question arose as to the comparison of a Whistler picture with a Titian, when Baron Huddleston said that the Titian would have to be genuine. Mr. Bowen said he could prove it. Which reminded the baron of the story on the commission, which was so great a joke that even the Court laughed. It seems that the commission, with all its general knowledge of art and of its particular knowledge as to what was a genuine Titian, bought the picture for a large sum, and when they proceeded to rub the picture down to learn what the finish was a red surface was discovered, and they thought beneath this lay the secret, but on removing it they found an old portrait of George III."

Everybody laughed except a lady listener.

"Why," she said innocently, "I don't see much of a joke in that. Artists paint over other pictures very often, don't they? And why shouldn't Titian have painted over this one? I don't really see how a little thing like that could affect the work of a really great artist."

Then nobody laughed, because everybody was paralysed.

CHANDELIER OF HUMAN BONES.

In the centre of the arched roof of All Saints' Church, Sedlec, in Bohemia, hangs a chandelier constructed entirely of human bones. The church in which this remarkable object is suspended is decorated from the floor to the ceiling with the blanched bones of human bodies. Garlands of bones stretch across the walls and hang from the ceiling. Pyramids, topped with golden crowns, are artistically reared from the ground with these whitened remains of the dead. The altars are literally covered with skulls, among which are hundreds of those which had been pierced by bullets or crushed by murderous blows from swords and other weapons, denoting that these grim relics of humanity have been gathered from adjacent battlefields. Tradition says that these piles of human bones were gathered by a blind friar of the Cistercian Order, who stored them in a corner of the church. As they were fast changing into their original elements, a man named Rint devoted himself to the task of cleaning and arranging them in the church. Prince Carl of Schwarzenberg took a strong, personal interest in the restoration and arrangement of the church, and ordered all the repairs to be done at his own expense. A large number of tourists visit this extraordinary church every year.

SHORTENED HIS SENTENCE.

A man charged with bigamy was once brought before Judge Gary, of Illinois. The accused had lived two years with the second woman, and he concluded to plead guilty on the understanding with the State Attorney that his sentence would divorce him from Number Two. When he stood before Judge Gray, the little man looked over his desk and asked in a voice of kindness:

"You will understand what a plea of guilty means?"

"Yes, your honour."

"And do you understand, if you so plead, it will be my duty to send you to the penitentiary? Do you understand that?"

"Yes, your Honour. Anything to get free."

The Judge looked at the man for a moment, and then said in his inimitable manner:

"I suppose there are some things beside which prison would be a relief. Any relative or friend of the defendant in court?"

A woman in black stood up on a bench, and said in a voice which sounded like the rip of cambric:

"I am his second wife, Judge."

Judge Gary immediately, with no change in his look or face—

"Some things besides which prison would be a relief. You ought to be willing to take three years."

The prisoner nodded assent.

Judge Gary looked over at the woman in black. He seemed to read her in a second. He turned to the man who had pleaded guilty and said—

"I will give you one year. You seem to have had the other two before they arrested you."

Bill: I've got to raise twenty dollars this week.

Phill: Is it urgent?

Bill: I should say so. If I don't get it my wife will come home.

THE OLDEST WEAPON.

The pistol, the smallest and most interesting of firearms, is also the oldest. From the time of the battle of Rentz, between the Germans and the French, in 1546, swords and pistols have been the recognised equipment of a horse soldier.

The exact date at which the pistol first made its appearance as a weapon is not certainly known. The earliest hand gun of which there is a specimen extant, is a fire-lock. A combination pistol and iron club, made about 1510, is preserved in one of the European museums. In firing it was held at arm's length and operated by a blazing stick applied to the touch hole. Once discharged, it could be used only as a club.

The evolution of the pistol can be traced by the development of the lock. Its earliest form, the fire-lock, was succeeded by the match-lock. There is in the Tower of London a match-lock of 1550. The improvement in the match-lock over the earlier form consisted in the fact that the latter carried its own self-burning slow match fixed on the lock. These match-lock pistols were also called serpentines, from the double curve of the combined cock and trigger, which were in one piece.

The wheel-lock, made chiefly in Italy, at Pistola, which is said to have originated the name "pistol," succeeded the match-lock. Its mechanism consisted of a cock, so called from being generally modelled after the head of the barnyard rooster, holding a piece of pyrites in its beak, which, on touching the trigger, as sprung back into contact with the wheel, in the lock. This wheel was wound up beforehand by a key, something like a clock-key, and when the trigger sprung the cock back, the spring of the wheel was simultaneously released and the pyrites in the cock's head was brought into contact with the serrated edge of the whirring wheel. A succession of sparks followed, as long as the wheel revolved, and some of them were tolerably sure to reach the powder.

The pistols manufactured in the seventeenth century were far handsomer than any that are made to-day. Soon after the discovery of gunpowder the mediæval armourers set at the task of perfecting a weapon in which to explode it. As a result of their efforts, the wheel-lock pistol was evolved. There are now in private collections in this country and Europe several fine specimens of these ancient wheel-locks which are the despair of the artificers of to-day. Inlaid with ivory, gold and silver in lock, stock and barrel, the wheel-locks of that day well deserved the name of "precious weapons." They were jewelled often at enormous outlay. Such gunsmiths as Nicholas Bis, "goldsmith to Philip V. of Spain," charged forty pounds sterling for a single pistol barrel, and sometimes worked at one for a year. The wheel-lock, from the very complexity of its firing mechanism, never came into general use. It was always a rich man's weapon.

As the wheel-lock cost too much for the ordinary man, the prize gunsmiths of Italy and Spain, the two countries where the finest mediæval firearms were made, put their wits to work on an improvement. The flintlock pistol was the result, and the greatest wars and most famous duels, down to 1850, were all fought with flintlocks.

The improvements on the flint-lock which led to the percussion-lock were covered by English patents in the early part of this century. A fulminating composition was first used, to be exploded by the fall of the cock (which had now become identical with the hammer) and this in turn led to the patenting, in England, of a tube, and a cap, of fulminate to fit on the tube. While some pistols were made under these patents as early as 1820-30, percussion cap pistols did not come into general knowledge until Samuel Colt patented his revolver in London and Paris in 1835. Colt had hard work to make the percussion-cap revolver go, and in 1842 his company became insolvent. General Zachary Taylor insisted on having his soldiers armed with these revolvers in the Mexican war and the government orders then given laid the foundation of Colt's fortunes. So discouraged had he become that when this order reached him, Mr. Colt had to make a new model; his old one had actually been lost.

A REMARKABLE BICYCLE RECONNAISSANCE.

The horse as an adjunct of military operations, may be relegated to an inferior position as a result of a bicycle reconnaissance made by the United States soldiers.

Lieutenant Abercrombie, accompanied by a sergeant and a private soldier, each man carrying on his machine blankets, half-shelter tents, revolver, cartridges, rations, and spare apparatus, so that the weight of each machine was brought up to 45 pounds, rode from Fort Omaha to Chicago and back. The journey eastward was made in almost constant rain, over roads so flooded and muddy that it was necessary for a part of the way to abandon them and take to the railroad track. The two soldiers were new men at the business, never having made a long bicycle journey before.

With these and other disadvantages, Lieutenant Abercrombie and his men made the round trip—a distance of 1,142 miles—in thirteen days of actual travel, averaging 84 miles a day on the eastward trip and 93 miles a day on the trip westward, when the roads were somewhat drier.

The riders frequently had to dismount to lead their machines through the sand. On one occasion they were obliged to fell a tree to make a foot-bridge across a river, and on another they had to cut brush and lay it down to make a foothold on the bottom of an expanse of water, through which they waded up to their knees, carrying their wheels above their heads. On the first day the detachment made 86 miles, over roads which, Lieutenant Abercrombie says, a horseman could not have traversed in any length of time. On the second day the party were forced to take to the railroad track.

The shock of bouncing from one tie to another was quite severe, "and when," the lieutenant says, "a trestle presented itself, a fresh complication arose. To dismount and walk meant to lose time, and to cool off and stiffen up; so the trestles were ridden, although the vibration of the handle-bars, where the sleepers were more than the regulation distance apart, was terrific. I could scarcely realise that such a delicate-looking machine as a bicycle could stand such rough usage. But we averaged on the railroad track over nine miles an hour."

The party reached Cevera Merrit's headquarters in Chicago, having made the distance from Omaha, 583 miles, in seven days, over roads as rough as rain and sun could make them.

The return was made more easily, and with less railroad track travel. As a result of his experience, Lieutenant Abercrombie declares that the practical value of the bicycle as a means of transportation for a scout, a connecting patrol, or an infantry screen or mounted picket is demonstrated.

"There are," he says, "two conditions, and only two, where a bicycle is valueless as a means of transport to a trained rider, and those are in sand devoid of vegetation and in soft, unpacked snow."

STOP, THIEF!

A clever detective one day found himself in a group of people listening to a man selling watches for three shillings each. The officer bought one, and having assured himself that it was genuine, came to the not unnatural conclusion that the articles were stolen. The vendor was, however, a giant, and the detective was by no means blessed with large proportions. He formed a plan. He asked the man to take a glass of beer, saying that he meant to purchase another watch. The offer was accepted, and a second watch was tendered, which the officer pretended to examine. He, however, suddenly took to his heels, watch in hand. Thereupon the other pursued, crying! "Stop, thief!" When the wily detective got him as far as the police station, he turned round, clutched the other by the collar, and to the great astonishment of everyone, led his captive inside.

A FAMOUS BLUNDERER.

Monsieur Calino, the popular French simpleton, who performs in the humorous literature of France much the same function that the traditional "Paddy" does in English literature, has been made the subject of a grave study, in which his innocent stupidities are carefully analysed. He is nothing more nor less than a convenient personification of a type of the harmless blunderer and complacent lack-wit found in all ages and countries. In France his sayings reflect, however, something of the picturesqueness which is characteristic of the nation.

Calino's blunderings, it seems, began at an early age. He had not craft enough to tell a lie that would hold water for a moment. One day at school he got into a fight with a companion and came home with a gash in his forehead.

"How did you get that cut?" asked his father.

"What cut, papa?"

"Why, that great gash on your forehead."

"I bit myself there, papa."

"Bit yourself? Why, you couldn't bite yourself on your forehead!"

"I got up on a chair to do it, papa."

Later in life Calino delivered himself of the following bit of wisdom:

"As for me, I don't care so much for the sun as I do for the moon. You see, the sun only comes after it gets daylight, when we could see just as well without it; but the moon's some use—it shines at night."

He had a magpie of which he was very fond. The magpie, by the way, is reputed to live a hundred years. One day Mrs. Calino called out to her husband:

"Look out for the magppie—there's the cat!"

"Never mind the cat," answers Calino. "Don't you know that a magpie lives a hundred years?"

Early one morning when Calino was out with his gun he saw a robin in the garden of his friend Camille. He aimed at it, but it dropped below the top of the wall. Then Calino went into the house, crept upstairs softly, stole into Camille's bedroom without waking Camille, who was in bed, pointed his gun out of the window at the robin and fired—bang!

Camille leaped out of bed in wild confusion and alarm.

"W-w-why—w-w-what's the matter?"

"Oh, did I wake you up?" said Calino. "I pulled the trigger just as softly as I could."

Calino is generally very benevolent. He had been to see an artist one night, and as he started to go after the lights on the stairway were put out, his friend gave him a little stump of a candle to light his way down the five flights.

At the bottom of the stairs Calino looked at the bit of candle.

"There's quite a piece of this left," he said, "and artists are so poor—and I'm down safely."

So he carried the candle back up the flights, and walked down in the dark.

SOLDIERS ON CYCLES.

All cycling men will read with interest the article on military cycling in the September "Windsor Magazine." "Any Volunteer corps is now at liberty, if it can, to raise a cycling section, which, by the way, must be at least twenty-one strong—twenty men and an officer. As the Volunteer cyclist receives no subsidy whatever from the Government, he is left free to select the style of machine that appeals most particularly to his fancy. But any standard, so long as it is strong and durable, and averaging between 25lbs and 30lbs in weight is suitable. It must be fitted with a brake, and also mudguards to preserve the uniforms of the rider. The machine is thoroughly overhauled and examined by the corps' cycling mechanic, and if it survives his captious scrutiny, is stamped as good for service. Skilled cycling mechanics are attached to the corps in case of any accident. The Government does not recompense a man for any damage his machine may sustain while actually on service, and, in order that the owner may suffer no pecuniary loss through reparation of accidents while the machines are serving an unappreciative State the expense is born by the staff fund of the corps. If the machine is doctored by an outside repairer, the staff mechanic quotes a figure which, in his estimation, is sufficient to cover the cost of repair, and this is paid out of the fund. Any difference there may be has to be settled by the owner himself. Before entering the cycling corps, the cyclists have to undergo the regulation infantry drill, after which follows instructions in the cycling drill. The latter is very similar to that of the foot soldiers, with one or two ameliorations which are impossible to men mounted on cycles, such as "marking time." The cyclists' equipment, although as compact as possible, is still weighty, but, being well distributed over the machine, does not cause much inconvenience. His Lee-Metford rifle which alone, with the magazine, weighs about 9½lbs. unloaded, is adjusted securely to the top bar of the frame of the machine by means of clips; in his belt are carried the pouches containing about 200 rounds of ammunition, while another similar supply is also conveyed on the machine; his haversack and water-bottle are suspended by means of a kind of brace over his shoulder, and his chest is left free from any encircling trappings which might hamper his breathing facilities. On the handle-bar his valise is strapped, while an indispensable part of his accoutrement is a complete repairing outfit, comprising wrenches, tyre-mending necessaries, inflator, &c. In action a battalion of cyclists requires a large amount of space, so that the manœuvres may be executed smartly. When extended in a lateral line, one yard must be left between each man to enable him to ground his machine without clashing with his neighbour. When marching in file, or single file—that is, one behind the other in one longitudinal line—a distance of one foot at the least, or, as it is called in the military vernacular, a 'cycle distance,' must be regulated between each cycle. As may be naturally supposed, to maintain anything like order and uniformity the speed of marching has to be gauged by the pace of the slowest rider; but the average marching speed is about ten miles per hour. This fluctuates, however, according to the conditions of the road and weather. It is almost impossible to maintain an absolutely compact order, as accidents to the machine, such as a puncture, compel the man to drop out. As a rule, while en route the cyclists "march at ease," and, although they may not leave their positions, they have a little more latitude extended to them than the ordinary soldiers, being permitted to talk and to smoke. In the event of a machine becoming temporarily disorganised, the cyclist falls out of the column and reports himself to the officer in command of the rearguard, with whom travel the cycling mechanics and stretcher bearers. The mechanics take the machine in hand and repair the damage, the battalion continuing its journey as if nothing had happened. When the accident has been repaired, the cyclist has to scorch along in order to catch up with the main body, though he is not permitted to fall into the ranks again until the company halts. If it be only his driving-gear that has become disorganised, he is taken in tow until the next halting-place is reached, when the damage is repaired."

SHE WOULD WASH TOO.

I was waiting for my train at a small Kent station, writes a traveller, when I was dreadfully scandalised at over-hearing the following conversation between two of the neighbouring landowners—the one a dignified old lady, the other a well-groomed and spruce gentleman. Said he:

"Do you wash?"

"No, I'm not dirty," was the calmly-given and astounding reply, "Do you?"

"Yes, I've washed for the last fortnight," replied the gentleman with some pride.

"Indeed; then I must begin," responded the lady.

My feelings would have been much spared had I known what I afterwards learnt—that they were only discussing the different treatment of their hop crops!

Her Sincerity.

"I think she is a very sincere girl."

"Sincere! Sincere! She's been engaged to eight different men to my knowledge."

"Well, even so, she is at least sincere in her efforts to make fools of the men."

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'Twixt Love and Gold.

PART 11.

A HIGHLY SENSATIONAL ROMANCE OF LOVE AND ADVENTURE.

By J. Hanmer Quail,

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CHAPTER XV. Continued.

"Here they are," Mr. Bexfield said a moment later, as he stopped opposite the picture gallery and opened the door. "Now I will leave you for a few minutes."

He turned on the electric light, and Wylva and Mr. Branstein passed into the room.

"Really this is very fine, Miss Merriman. What a large collection," Mr. Branstein remarked as he looked round the room.

Mr. Bexfield is very proud of his pictures. He is continually buying them," Wylva answered.

"That is very pretty."

"Yes; that is English landscape. You have all the variety of our English country scenery there; meadow, cornfield, woodland; and light blue sky with the pearly white cloud-bank overhead. That is all very English," she said with a smile.

"You evidently appreciate your English scenery, Miss Merriman."

"I really do, Mr. Branstein. I have not found scenery anywhere in which there is the same variety, yet the same agreeable harmony which there is in our English scenery."

"Have you travelled much, Miss Merriman?"

"I have been through Italy and Switzerland, and, of course, to France and among the fjords of Norway. I have seen bolder and more rugged scenery. Switzerland is majestic, grand; but you have not the variety. English scenery is varied but very reposeful. It is essentially pretty."

"'Ah you are evidently a lover of what you call 'Old England.' I suppose you were never in Africa?"

"No, Mr. Branstein, though I would really like to go. Stanley, Burton and Drummond have quite fired my enthusiasm for Africa. The equatorial lands and the forest lands must be wonderful. I should like to visit them."

"You really would?"

"I would indeed. I simply devour books of African travel. I would so love to explore the shores of Lake Tanganyka or Victoria Nyanza."

"Why, whatever for?"

"Oh, I would just set out with a light knapsack, and have such a delightful tramp through the lake district of British East Africa. I should so enjoy it."

"Why you would be captured by the slave traders, or carried off as the wife of some wizened old sheikh, and there would be an end of you," he said, laughing.

"Oh I don't think so; I have a good mind to go as it is; just taking a handbag, and what I could carry, and set off for a real good tour, I do not believe anybody would molest me."

"And what about the lions and tigers and elephants?" he asked, now thoroughly enjoying the idea.

"They are too well-bred to touch an inoffensive English girl, I am quite sure. If I came and just said 'shoo' at them with my sunshade, I am sure they would scamper off. I should have no fear whatever of them."

There was such a fresh and merry gaiety in her talk and manner; she talked so easily and confidently that Mr. Branstein was charmed with her.

There, at last, by his very side, was the ideal English girl whom he had come all the way from Kimberley to find—cultured, merry-hearted, and with enough English spirit to carry her anywhere and through everything. She had money too, and he had been told that he could have her.

On the very eve of giving up his quest and returning to Kimberley, fortune had smiled on him. There and then, on that very spot, he decided that he would have Wylva Merriman for his wife.

An hour later Mr. Bexfield and Karl Branstein entered the smoking-room together. Mr. Bexfield carefully closed the door behind them. They were alone, and could talk without being overheard.

"Well, you have seen her. What do you think of her?" asked Mr. Bexfield, eagerly.

"I don't mind taking her," Mr. Branstein answered in a light, half-jocular way.

"Really?"

"Yes, I think she would do for me very well. She says she would like to go to Africa."

"The deuce she does!"

"Yes. She seems just the sort of girl I fancy. If it can be arranged I'll take her."

"You really will?"

"Yes."

"Well, that's business. You shall have her. Now what are you prepared to do for me? She's worth a hundred thousand pounds."

Mr. Branstein was silent for more than a minute.

"Have you any idea, and proposal to make?" he said, vaguely, at length.

"Well now, let me see. You came over to start the Randt New Drift, didn't you?"

"Partly."

"Well, if you get Miss Merriman and her money do you think your father would be willing to allot me thirty thousand pounds worth of 'New Drifts' or 'First Gems'?"

"I can not say that off-hand."

"You see you would be getting much more than the shares would bring you, and if I took, say thirty thousand pounds' worth as consideration for finding you the girl and her money, the shares would be, as it were, in the family. Your father and you and I could work the thing splendidly, with you out there and I here in London."

"I think he would agree. I am quire favourable. I would have to see him and go into it thoroughly with him."

"But you are personally favourable?"

"Y-es; I would agree."

"Could you not settle it by wire?"

"No," said Mr. Branstein gravely

"Well, what do you propose?"

Mr. Branstein thought for a few minutes. Mr. Bexfield noted the workings of his face with all the cool and critical keenness of his nature.

"I say this," Mr. Braustein resumed. "On my part I would agree to your suggestion to give you a block of New Drift shares if you arranged that I could marry Miss Merriman, and she has what you say. I must go back by the 'Claremont Castle' on Thursday week. We have nine days. Can you come back with me and take Miss Merriman with us? We will go to Capetown, and then by rail to Kimberley. You could see my father and arrange, and I could marry Miss Merriman while you were there, and the thing would be settled."

"Yes, I'll do that," Mr. Bexfield answered without hesitation. The idea brought to a point a long-thought-of project of his own. He had long been desirous of visiting the diamond fields and the gold districts of South Africa, but he had not seen sufficient reason for undertaking the trip. Here was a reason based on what may prove to be a most profitable business transaction. It was worth his while to go to South Africa. So he arranged with Mr. Branstein that he and Wylva would go to the Cape in the 'Claremont Castle.'

It was to be kept from Wylva's knowledge that Mr. Branstein was going by the same steamer until they had met on board. Then Mr. Branstein was to make the most of the opportunity he would have during the passage of gaining favour with Wylva so that by the time they arrived at Capetown there would be nothing to do but arrange for the marriage and carry it out. The plan seemed perfect. Mr. Bexfield and Mr. Branstein parted on the most cordial terms, feeling that each had done the other a service of supreme value and importance.

CHAPTER XVI.

Lady Cameron was seated by the side of a little table that stood near the window in the breakfast-room of Glenshiel House. She was poring over a letter which had come in by the morning post. She was alone, for as was her custom, she had stayed in the room after breakfast to look over any papers which the postman brought to the house.

After reading the letters through, she rose from her chair walked to the bell-rope and rang for a maid.

"Harris; find Mr. Malcolm, and ask him to come to me immediately," Lady Cameron said to the maid when she entered the room.

"Yes, my lady."

The girl left the room, and Lady Cameron began to read the letter again. She had reached the last line of it when Malcolm came into the room.

"Well, mother; what is the matter? I was just going with Charlie Drayton to the links," Malcolm said in his free and easy style.

"I have just got the most extraordinary letter from—whom do you think?" said Lady Cameron excitedly.

"Well, let me hear it please."

"It is from Wylva Merriman—"

"Wylva!" exclaimed Malcolm. The name had given the letter a tremendous interest to him.

"Where is she? What does she say?" he asked, eagerly.

"Listen, and I will read it to you.

"Capetown—"

"Capetown! 'Scot'"

"Hush Malcolm; don't interrupt,"

"Capetown, Nov. 15.

"Dear Lady Cameron,—I am sure that you must think me a very unkind and graceless girl that I have not written to you before this. Do bear with me. I have had a strange experience since I left your happy home at Glenshiel. I am writing this on the steamer 'Claremont Castle' far down in the South Atlantic Ocean. If we arrive at Capetown all well I will post the letter on landing there."

"I do not know how or where to begin to tell you all I have passed through since I left you. Things have been so strange. After seeing Mr. Bexfield many times about some property in Surrey and some land at Kimberley that I have never heard of and knew nothing at all about, he insisted on me accompanying him to South Africa to witness transactions over the sale of some of the land. I first refused flatly to go, but as he insisted and a lawyer whom he brought, said it was necessary that I should go, I consented, as Mr. Bexfield was going too, and, as he said, solely in my interest and over my affairs. I have reason to suppose that this was part of a plot. I found among the passengers a Mr. Karl Branstein, a young man who is said to be the son of a wealthy diamond merchant of Kimberley, to whom I was introduced at Mr. Bexfield's house. He has never ceased to pay attentions to me since we first met on the steamer. Mr. Bexfield has been pressing me to be agreeable to him, and favour him. It is plain that Mr. Bexfield intends that I shall marry this Mr. Branstein. I have not encouraged him in any way and shall not, but I am sure that I am being brought to South Africa with this object. I feel that it is a plot of Mr. Bexfield's to serve his own ends. I do not know what they may try to do with me in South Africa. I will write to you as soon as ever I find out, where. I am being taken to. I hope that Sir Montague Cameron and yourself are well, and that Aggie and Jack and Malcolm are also well. With love to yourself and kind remembrances to all, dear Lady Cameron,

I am,
Your sincere friend,
Wylva Merriman.

"There that is the letter. What do you think of it?" Lady Cameron asked.

"Let me see it mother."

Lady Cameron handed the letter to her son. Malcolm read it through twice.

"The scoundrels! I should like to shoot them," he said angrilly as his eyes still rested on the letter.

"Leave it with me mother and I will talk with Charlie about it," he said after a pause as he folded the letter up.

"Well, mind what you do with it."

"I will take every care of it, mother. I must go, Charlie will be waiting. Good morning!"

He placed the letter in his breast pocket and walked quickly from the house in the direction of the links.

At the point where the path joined the road a tall and handsome man stood with impatient air looking towards Glenshiel House. It was Charlie Drayton, Malcolm Cameron's old college chum. The two were fast friends and spent much of their time together in Scotland. Charlie was the youngest son of Kenneth Drayton, the wealthy izon master, and had nothing to do but fish, shoot, play golf and fill in his days as pleasantly as he could. It was Charlie who had been with Malcolm in the boat when Malcolm had fallen into the river and Wylva Merriman had rescued him. The boat had drifted down the river for about half a mile and had grounded near another bend and Charlie had waded ashore. Malcolm and he were close friends before the adventure on the river. Now they were simply inseparable.

The Draytons lived at Craig Hall, which nestled at the wood at the foot of the Craig, a mile west of Glenshiel House. Charlie was tall and manly the picture of vigour and health. As he stood there in his brown Norfolk suit chafing to be away over the links, his light blue eyes fixed intently on the road leading from the Camerons' he looked particularly handsome.

"Don't hurry, old man, I'm watching that patch of heather turn pale. It will have changed by next week. It is immensely interesting," drawled Charlie with playful irony. He had been waiting a quarter of an hour.

"Oh, dash it. I have been kept over the letters. The mater has had a letter that has quite upset her," Malcolm said, hastily.

"Oh! No bad news I hope."

"No, that is, not exactly, but some frightfully exasperating news."

"Oh, that's all right. That is the kind of thing we want up here to keep us lively."

"Oh, be hanged to that!"

"Well, if it weren't for the yarns we hear from town about fellows busting up or getting married, or making away with themselves some way, life would be as flat as ditch-water up here," said Charlie, laughing.

"Miss Merriman has been abducted again."

"Good Heavens," exclaimed Charlie. He knew Wylva's story well. Malcolm had told him all he had heard about her, after their mishap on the river. Charlie had been profoundly interested in everything relating to her. He had noticed the strong burning interest which Malcolm took in Miss Merriman and her affairs, and had rightly concluded that there was something more than ordinary friendship underlying it.

"Read her letter for yourself," Malcolm said, after he had given Charlie a brief report of Wylva's position as shown by the letter with such other points of interest or surmise as he felt he could add.

Charlie took the letter without a word, and for about five minutes pondered over it with a look of extreme gravity.

"What do you make of it?" Malcolm asked, becoming impatient.

"That Bexfield is her guardian, is he not?" asked Charlie.

"He is, and he is not. I have never heard that he was legally appointed. He controls her money and as far as it suits him claims to be her guardian. I would give anything to know that she is really out of his clutches."

"There is no telling what he might be up to."

"That is what aggravates me."

"But the girl has gone. What can you do?"

"I know what I should like to do'

"What's that?"

"Go after her. Settle that Bexfield, and bring her back."

"You don't know where she is, now."

"I'll guarantee I'd find her within six weeks, if she were alive."

"What, go to Capetown?"

"Aye, and then track her."

"Well go. It will be an outing for you."

"I'll go if you will come with me."

"You will?"

"Yes."

"Are you in earnest?"

"Well, I have said it. A Cameron does not depart from his word. Do you mean it?"

"Oh, you old chump! If you weren't Malcolm Cameron I would—knock you—"

(To be Continued.)

AT A PATIENT'S BEDSIDE.

An old negro living in Carrollton was taken ill recently, and called in a physician of his race to prescribe for him. But the old man did not seem to be getting any better and finally a white physician was called. Soon after arriving, Dr. S— felt the darkey's pulse for a moment, and then examined his tongue. "Did your other doctor take your temperature," he asked.

"I don't know, sah," he answered feebly. "I hain't missed anything but my watch as yit, sah."

A CURIOUS PROFESSION.

PILLAGING THE GRAVES OF THE ANCIENTS.

Among the more or less singular industries followed in the western parts of America is that of the systematic grave looting, or, as it is politely and euphemistically called, the "excavation of mounds," the object of which is to secure the various articles of stone, wood, and shell which were deposited in the graves of the ancient Californians it being the practice from the earliest times to bury with the dead all his or her possessions. The custom of grave or mound digging was started about 25 years ago, when the Government, having heard of large deposits, mounds, and graves on the Pacific coast organised an expedition in the interests of science, and made a careful and prolific investigation of the entire coast. As a result of these early investigations, there is a good Californian collection in the British Museum, one in the National Museum at Washington, one in Salem, and one in the American Museum of Natural History, New York, while others have fine collections, made at various times.

It would be manifestly impossible to take all the material representing hundreds of years of life on the Pacific slope, hence there is yet a field for the explorer, and he is represented by a number of collectors who sell what they find to the various curiosity dealers; and so the household gods of the ancients are distributed all over the country. The old graveyards are found all through the south-west. In many instances the dead were evidently buried either in the huts or in the very town where people lived. This was illustrated at Avalon, Santa Catalina Island, where a large Indian town of unknown antiquity was situated.

When a native at Santa Catalina, or Pimugna, as it was called, died, he was buried in a shallow grave in or near his hut, and all his household goods were placed by his side—mortars, pestles, fish-hooks, and other objects—and so many were buried here that at first it was but necessary for collectors to turn over the black sand to find mortars, pestles, and skeletons, all mingled in strange confusion. Hundreds of objects have been taken from this locality, and every time an excavation is made at some places, stone implements are unearthed, telling the interesting story of which was really a Californian Stone Age. In the lowest graves there were no iron implements, all the decaying objects being of wood, bone or stone; but above this each grave contained various articles, bell-tongues of copper being the most common. Other iron objects were rough files, sword or knife-blades, and beads of various kinds common in Spain 200 or 300 years ago. San Nicolas, 80 miles to the north-west of Santa Catalina is another favourite hunting-ground for these curio hunters, and groups of skeletons are here found buried under the sand, together with various implements found useful in the life of the departed.

One of the most interesting finds of these collectors are what they term "jewellery cases." These are two large shells of haliotis, which have been reversed and joined, forming a box, the edges being sealed with asphaltum, quantities of which float ashore on all the islands. Upon shaking these boxes a rattling sound is heard showing that something is within, and when the shell is pried open, resting in the pearly interior are found earrings made of pearl, choice pearl beads, a small necklace of shells perhaps, and strange objects of stone—good luck stones, all of which were made from the choicest abalone shells. Doubtless these objects were very valued possessions of some native maiden, and were sealed up in this manner and placed in her grave. Few objects of this ancient loot have such an attraction to the buyer as these, as each "case" is different, and few can resist the temptation to break open the shells.

As the days go by on the collecting ground the pile of filled boxes and gunny sacks increases, and the curiosity hunters become wearied with the eternal monotony—sand everywhere, sand aloft in great whirls, now scudding along the surface, piling up against every obstruction, alternately changing the face of Nature. The constant rush and roar of the waves has become maddening, the lines of shags and their strange movements have long ceased to be an amusement, and the isolated men watch and count the days when the boat shall appear. Finally when it does, they shake the dust of the island literally from their clothing and return to Avalon to take up their summer avocation as boatsmen or oarsmen. The finds are divided pro rata, the partnership is dissolved, and the highest bidder among the curiosity dealers obtains the collection, which in a short time is spread broadcast over the country.

DETERMINED TO FINISH HIS SLEEP.

Jack: "Pat, Pat, wake up. The ship has sprung a leak!"

Pat: "Shure, and if it has sprung a bed of onions I'll have me slape out."

"But I mean there is a big hole in the ship's side and the water is coming in."

"Shure and can't ye make a hole in the other side and let it run out? Don't ye disturb me any more."

Bronchitis is the most fatal disease in England, next consumption, and then heart disease, pneumonia, and scarlatina.

A good circulation is essential to the growth of the hair, as well as to its colour and fineness. A frequent vigorous brushing with a stiff brush is the best method of obtaining this.

TO DREDGE THE "SEA OF DEATH."

GOLD SEEKERS EXPLORING NEPTUNE'S CEMETERY.

When a warship, which had been sent out by the United States Government to search the Atlantic for derelicts, returned, her captain made a report concerning the Sargasso Sea, which excited the imagination and cupidity— of six American business men to such an extent that they decided to investigate the chances of success they had of recovering some of the treasure which is known to be lying at the bottom of that sea.

The Sargasso Sea is not an ordinary piece of water. It is a weird, mystic sea of tangled weed, lying just south of the Bermudas. It is as large as France and Spain together, and into this "sea-weed" sea the resistless, tireless, circling Gulf Stream has for centuries past been persistently carrying all the wrecks which have strewn its path.

Once in the Sea of Sargasso, it is practically impossible for any wreck to move again, for old Neptune catches it and binds it close with his myriad ropes—sea weed so dense that no propeller has yet been devised which will not be tied up by it in half an hour or in half a dozen revolutions.

It is this sea, then, this vast unexplored region of treasure and ghastly death, that the six business men of America have studdied for months

In equipment they have already spent a small fortune. In a shipyard hedged about with the utmost secrecy, the strange craft which is to be used for the expedition is being built. Its designer is one of the best known naval constructors in the United States.

The problem that confronted the adventurers was how to make a path through the tangled seaweed of Sargasso. No propeller known could do it; sails were out of the question in that windless, tideless sea.

But the would be millionaires were not to be disappointed. They went to the Government naval constructor who fancied the scheme and set to work, completing a working model in four months. The model has triumphed over every test. The few who have seen it say that it looks like a steel scow with low freeboard and roomy deck-house.

But the mystery of the propeller is known alone to the inventor, and his six principals, and to the heads of the shipbuilding concern that has taken the contract for construction.

An important part of the equipment is the hyhroscope and the sea elevator, both recent inventions of an Italian, named Cavalier Pino.

The hydroscope is a submarine lamp of wonderful power, with mirror illuminating the sea and rendering the smallest object clearly visible at great depths.

SEA ELEVATOR A MARVEL.

Pino's sea elevator is a marvellous contrivance, by which objects disclosed on the ocean bottom by the hydroscope may be reached and readily picked up.

Equipped with these instruments, the inventors think they will be able to safely venture into the matted weeds which form the lifeless Sea of Sargasso But whether they will ever return from what 99 men in every 100 would call the maddest wild-goose chase remains to be seen.

Although there are some few narrow channels of clear water in this cemetery of wrecks, the greater portion of it consists of long rope-like weeds, and should there be a single weak spot in the machinery, it would mean death—a slow and lingering, but none the less sure death—for every soul on board.

To escape from the clinging fetters of the slimy ocean grass would be well nigh impossible without the aid of a balloon. No outside ship could be expected, for no ship enters the Sargasso Sea except it be driven by storm.

Many are the thrilling tales that have been written about attempts to force an entrance into the "Sea of Death" to snatch the gold of a hundred galleons from their quiet resting place. But this is the first serious scientific attempt that has been made to do so.

The very name of Sargasso Sea conjures up visions of stately Spanish galleons filled with gold and silver, and which getting out of their course in storms have been driven to the north until caught in the tepid waters of the Gulf Stream, and so carried along and laid at rest in this cemetery for ships—the Sea of Sargasso.

HIS CHANCE OF A CHAMPIONSHIP.

The young man had arrived in the village fresh from town, where he had lived all his life. Before he had been in the village many weeks his new friends had listened to some thrilling accounts of his powers and very soon all the village was made aware that in all games, athletics, etc., he had never met his master.

Naturally he soon had a lot of supporters, but after the village ostler had beaten him at billiards, the grocer's boy had beaten him in a half-mile race and the blacksmith had knocked him out in two rounds with the gloves, the champion began to look a bit downcast, until one of his supporters said:

"Never mind, there's a chance of a championship yet."

"How's that?" gloomily asked the hero.

"Well, I'll tell thee," replied his supporter. "Bill Smith, the wheelwright, has been the biggest liar around here for miles, and I think tha can beat him."

An ostrich never goes to its nest in a direct line; it will take as many windings and detours as possible in order to conceal the spot from its enemies.

A SIDE LIGHT ON RADIUM.

It is conceivable that some comparatively cheap and simple chemical reaction may be discovered that will eliminate the radium from all the foreign matters with which it is connected, but meantime that result can only be attained by an elaborate system of concentration and crystallisation—to indicate only two of the stages—which will necessitate the employment of the highest engineering skill to design machinery of the most complicated character in order to carry out the desired result upon any other than a mere laboratory scale.

But, it may be argued, the value of radium is so great that all this can be easily paid for, and still it will leave a large profit. Can it? Let us look at the figures.

Radium can hardly yet be said to have attained the dignity of a market. Its middle price may be calculated, however, at present at about £62 per grain, whilst one somewhat optimistic estimate puts the quantity available in 100 tons of piechblend—itself a partially concentrated product—at under three grains In other words, supposing this was in practice realised, the net value from this 100 tons of raw material would be about 35 shillings a ton.

Exactly what process the engineering chemist will require to invent to bring this result about cannot in the meantime be foreseen, but whether any such figure as this will pay, or not, can in part be judged from the analogy of gold extraction.

After generations of research the cost of freeing that precious metal from refractory matrices by cyanide or similar processes, including the cost of raising the ore, is considered cheap at 25 shillings per gross ton treated, and often costs double that. In this case also the ultimate product is gained in appreciable quantities, and has only to be taken to the bank to be turned into money. It will be different with radium, the amount of which from 100 tons will not fill a small thimble, which a puff of wind might scatter, and which, at least at present, has no stability of value beyond the practical certainty that its present "fancy" price must fall enormously as production increases, or before it can be utilised for any other than scientific or medical experiments—"Science Siftings."

THE ARMY OF JAPAN.

Compared with the huge military strength of Russia, that of Japan is little more than a pigmy one. Yet it reaches the fairly substantial total of about 450,000 from all sources, together with 1,200 guns and 90,000 horses.

Less than one-half of this is contributed by the Permanent Army, the balance coming from the Territorial Army and the Reserve.

Japan's military system may be described as having been gradually evolved from European models, the methods of Germany being perhaps followed more closely than those of any other nation.

Service is compulsory between the ages of seventeen and forty, and extends over a period of twelve years. Only three of these, however, have to be spent with the colours. The fighting force always available for duty is divided into 156 battalions of infantry, 51 squadrons of cavalry, 40 batteries of field and fortress artillery, together with a proportionate compliment of engineer, supply, and transport detachments.

For armament, the field artillery have the Arisaka quick-firing pattern, and the infantry on the permanent establishment carry the Widji magazine rifle. Japanese cavalry are served out with swords and carbines, but no lances.

THE PRUSSIANS AT WATERLOO.

Sir John Kincaid who served as captain (95th Regiment), says in his "Adventures in the Rifle Brigade," on the subject of the share of the Prussians in the great victory:—

"It will be a matter of dispute what the result of that day would have been without the arrival of the Prussians; but it is clear to me that Lord Wellington would not have fought at Waterloo unless Blucher had promised to aid him with his 30,000 men, as he required that number to put him on a numerical footing with his adversary. It is certain that the promised did not come in time to take any share whatever in the battle. It is equally certain that the enemy had long before been beaten into a mass of ruin, in condition for nothing but running, and wanting but an apology to do it; and I will ever maintain that Wellington in his last advance would have made it the same victory had a Prussian never been there.

"If Lord Wellington had been at the head of his old Peninsula Army, I am confident that he would have swept his opponents off the face of the earth after their first attack, but with such a heterogeneous mixture under his command he was obliged to submit to a longer day."

AUSTRALIAN PROWESS.

During the late Boer War, General Cronje, in conversation with Jubert, inquired of him if he had any knowledge of the Australians.

"Yes," said Jubert; "and I know them to be very clever race of people."

Cronje inquiring how he knew them to be so, Jubert answered:

"I read some years ago that eleven Australians beat all England"

"Good gracious," said Cronje; "and they are going to send out ten thousand of them to fight us. Whatever shall we do?"

Several species of moth never eat after attaining a perfect state. Their mouths become smaller and smaller until they finally shut altogether. Then the moth lives but a few hours.

A DETECTIVE'S STORY.

I witnessed a remarkable piece of cool-headed daring some years ago.

I was walking along when my attention was attracted by cries of "Stop thief! Stop thief!" and looking round I beheld a crowd pursuing a man some twenty yards in the foreground. With the crowd I at once gave chase, and had almost run him down when he gave a sudden turn, and bolted down the street; but I leave you to judge of our surprise when upon turning the corner we saw the object of our pursuit 200 yards along the road!

"Springheel Jack!" shouted some. "He has wings," declared others; but our policeman knew better. "Hold on, mister," he said to me. "I may want your assistance"; and turning to an archway where two or three labourers were sleeping and dexterously slipped the handcuffs upon a slumberer.

"I knew," he said afterwards, "that it was an impossibility to jump 200 yards at a stroke. The man the crowd saw was not our prisoner. It was a clever device on the part of the thief, who, seeing this man running on in front and those labourers asleep in the archway, grasped the situation, and, dropping in with the labourers, affected sleep. He's an old 'un though. See how hard it was to rouse him!"

AN INTERESTING POINT OF LAW.

A pretty problem is presented by the case of a man who, dying, decreed in his will that if a son were posthumously born to him the child should inherit two-thirds of the estate and the testator's widow the remaining one-third. If the child were a girl she should receive one-third and the widow two-thirds. The widow gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl. In this predicament the advice of three counsel was taken. The first barrister argued that under the father's will the boy was entitled to two-thirds of the estate and the mother to the other third. A second barrister gave as his opinion that the girl should receive the third of the property bequeathed to a daughter by the testator, and that the boy was similarly entitled to two-thirds. This left the mother unprovided for. But her counsel argued that the will presented her with one-third of the estate if she gave birth to a daughter and two-thirds if she bore a boy: therefore as she had given birth to both a boy and a girl she was legally entitled to the whole estate.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The first bicycle factory in Japan is about to start with large capital.

Robert Burns' cottage at Ayr was last year visited by over 50,000 persons.

Thirteen life assurance companies in Great Britain refuse to accept risks on unvaccinated persons.

New York City has more Jews than Jerusalem and London together.

A mountain of granite, two miles long and a half a mile wide, has been discovered in Oklahoma.

A giraffe assumes a high position immediately after birth. At that time he measures 7ft. from his hoofs to the top of his head.

In Syria people, instead of taking off their caps or turbans, when entering a friend's house, remove their shoes, in order to protect the expensive rugs with which the floors are covered.

In Montana, grasshoppers have destroyed all vegetatian in a district seventy miles wide. The plains are dotted with carcases of cattle that have starved to death because of the lack of herbage.

With the assistance of the latest machines, leather can now be transformed into a pair of boots in 31 minutes, in which time it passes through the hands of 63 persons, and through fifteen machines.

To remove grease spots from wall-paper hold a piece of clean blotting-paper over the spot and press a moderately warm flatiron over it. Repeat the operation until all the grease is out.

Sir John Herschel, who knew a good deal about comets, estimated that even those with tails millions of miles in length do not weigh over half a pound.

The only yearly paper in the world is published at Cape Prince of Wales, in the Arctic circle. It is called the "Eskimo Bulletin." The subscription price is 5d. a year.

It is strange that sea-fowls' eggs are almost conical in form, so that they will only roll in a circle. As many of them are laid on the bare edges of high rocks, this provision of natura prevents them rolling off.

Weather predictions for the next twenty-four hours are now stamped on all letters that pass through the post-office in Mexico. The stamping is done at the same time that the postage stamps on the letters are cancelled.

Great excitement prevailed in Atlanta during a recent baseball match between nines composed entirely of coloured men. Observing that a catcher had missed a pitched ball, one of the players tried to steal from the first to the second base. Before he reached it he was shot, dead by a partisan of the opposing nine. But this tragedy only temporarily delayed the game. Two innings later the umpire was fatally shot because he rendered a decision that was considered unjust.

4s 9d, which was better than last year, viz., £9 13s 1d. The big difference in the receipts will not be wondered at from the following:—There were about 13 months in last year's balance-sheet, as against 10½ months this year. The reason of my calling the meeting on the 8th June instead of the 28th July was because the latter was too late in the year, and I hope that in the future all annual meetings will be held on the same date. The honorary members' subscriptions were very small this year, but that cannot be wondered at when such an effort as the band rotunda had just passed. The public were accusing the Band of begging (as some called it) too often, but I think this is very unfair and unjust. The Band have not made an effort in aid of their funds since September, 1902. The rotunda was the property of the council, and further, the Band gave a donation of £21. I will not tire you by giving you a long report, as everything has been put in order in the balance-sheet. Thanking all the officers and members for their kindness and assistance,—C. W. Jones.

The secretary said he had received three resignations during the past 12 months from members who could not attend practices owing to business matters. He thought it only a fair thing that these members, who had done their share in helping the band along, should be placed on a reserve list. It was not fair that these members should pay their 1s per week when they could not attend. A good deal of discussion took place over the matter; several members stating it would make a difference in the number of paid-up members, and eventually the matter was left over for consideration at next meeting.

The following accounts were passed for payment:—J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., £1 19s 6d; A. Parker, 5s.

The secretary moved that the members who have left the band be placed on the hon. members' list. Seconded by Mr W. T. Hill, and carried.

Mr Jaensch, in accordance with notice, moved that rule 20 be rescinded. He stated that in the event of it being carried he would then further move that the 1s per week be not paid by the members into the band funds when the bandmaster is not present. Seconded by Mr E. Buchanan.

Mr W. J. Hill said that during the past 12 months Mr Prout (the bandmaster) had only missed three practices, and on one occasion he had lost one of his children. He thought that the members had their 1s worth even if Mr Prout was not present.

Mr W. T. Hill considered it only a fair thing that they should not pay when the bandmaster was not present.

The motion was carried.

Mr Jaensch then moved that the words "excepting when the bandmaster does not attend" be added to rule 20. Seconded by Mr E. Buchanan, and carried.

It was decided that a book be procured for the purpose of keeping a list of members' subscriptions in, and the matter of arranging same was left in the hands of the secretary, Messrs W. J. Hill and A. McDougall.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The retiring president said that before proceeding with the election of officers he wished to thank the members for the courtesy extended to him during his term of office, and he hoped that his successor would enjoy the same. He would always do what he could for the band, and hoped that they would be able to come out a little more during the coming summer, as last summer, owing to the indifferent weather, they could not appear at the rotunda perhaps as often as they would have liked. He hoped that the band would still continue to prosper, and said that during the last 12 months they had got on splendidly.

The following officers were elected:—President, Dr. G. A. Eadie; vice-presidents, Messrs D. F. Troy, E. W. Hughes, and A. McDougall; treasurer, Mr A. Parker; hon. secretary, Mr C. W. Jones; committee, Messrs L. Jaensch, A. Driver, W. Holdsworth, E. Buchanan, and A. L. Wotherspoon; librarian, Mr H. Buchanan; auditors, Messrs H. H. Menzies and D. McDonald; delegates to conference, Messrs W. J. Hill and C. W. Tompkins; rules committee, president, secretary, and Mr W. J. Hill. Mr Hughes and the secretary returned thanks for their appointments.

Mr W. T. Hill moved that the usual bonus of £4 4s be passed to the secretary. Seconded by Mr E. Buchanan, and carried. The secretary returned thanks, and promised to do his best for the band.

Mr W. T. Hill moved that a hearty vote of thanks be passed to the retiring officers. Mr Jones spoke highly of the lively interest taken by the retiring president in the band, Mr W. J. Hill (assistant bandmaster), and Mr A. McDougall (roll-caller). The motion was carried by acclamation, and duly acknowledged by Messrs Wotherspoon, Hill and McDougall.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting, and the secretary invited those present to the Golden Age Hotel, to partake of a glass of wine.

For Chronic Chest Complaints, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

The fortnightly meeting of Beaufort Branch A.N.A. was held in the lodge room, Societies' Hall, on Tuesday evening; Mr Carroll (President) presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence.—From C. J. C. Baker, re arbor day, stating that no action would be taken.—Received. From Colonial Mutual Fire Insurance Co., re policies of secretary and treasurer.—Received. Two new benefit members were elected. The secretary reported that there were no members on the sick pay fund, five having declared off. Accounts amounting to £5 6s 8d were passed for payment. It was decided that the syllabus committee meet and draw up syllabus for ensuing half-year. Mr Carroll apologised for the absence of Mr Muntz, and returned thanks for his election to the position of president. The president drew attention to the item on the syllabus for next meeting—a paper by the Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A., and urged that the ladies be asked to attend. The treasurer reported that the contributions for the evening amounted to £46 13s 8d.

In common with the rest of the State, Monday last was observed as a strict holiday in Beaufort, in honor of the Prince of Wales' birthday. The actual anniversary fell on Friday, His Royal Highness having been born on June 3, 1895. It was in 1892, through the death of his elder brother, that he became the heir to the throne, and took his seat in the House of Lords as Duke of York.

Bonnington's Irish Moss
For Stubborn Colds and Children's Hacking Coughs.
BY POSTAL ORDER.

Correspondence.

We do not in any way identify ourselves with the opinions expressed by our correspondents. It is desired that letters to the editor shall be accompanied by the real name and address of the writer, not for absolute publication, but as a *bona fide* guarantee.

THOSE DIRTY GUTTERS.

"From Dr. Eadie, health officer, reporting seven cases of typhoid fever in Beaufort for the month. Received.—From the secretary Public Health Department, asking for a report from the officer of health for the district on the condition of the premises and of the milk, food, and water supply in connection with 11 cases of typhoid fever reported from Beaufort. Special reference should be made to the probable source of outbreak, and measures adopted to render excreta innocuous. Letter to be forwarded to the health officer."

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—The above extract is taken from the report of the Riponshire Council meeting of the 6th inst., and I crave your indulgence for sufficient space in which to bring it prominently before the notice of the ratepayers generally, and the representatives of the North riding in particular. On the same day we have the local health officer's report anent several private premises about the township, and it strikes us that whilst the North riding members are giving this matter their consideration, it would be opportune to ask them to also consider the advisability of putting their "own house" in order. I refer particularly to "those dirty gutters" that you draw attention to some little time ago. I believe I am right in saying that not one of the occupants of the dirty premises referred to in the report have been victims to typhoid, whilst I know that two of the cases (which came particularly under the writer's notice), were distinctly traceable to the said dirty gutters, and in both cases was the disease contracted in the centre of the town. We are told that there are not sufficient funds available to make new drains. If this is so, does it not seem a farce to send 10 per cent. of the shire revenue away in charitable votes. Should not charity begin at home? Prevention is surely better than cure. If the present revenue is not sufficient for the township's needs, cannot the rate be raised for a year or so until such time as our town is cleaned up, and one can venture out without fear of contracting the fell disease of typhoid. Failing this, will the council adopt the suggestion to have a number of cheap calico signs printed (large black letters preferred), and stuck up along the routes of the drains that wander about our principal streets, bearing the device, "This is a fever spot?" Then the unwary would be warned of the danger of inhaling a breath anywhere between the railway station and the State school, and the responsibility would be shifted from the shoulders of the North riding members. Thanking you, Sir,—Yours, &c.,

H. H. MENZIES.

Beaufort, 8th June, 1904.

Unused Roads.

RETURN FOR THE SHIRE OF RIPON.

The following return was submitted to the Riponshire Council on Monday by Mr E. J. Muntz, valuer and engineer, and its preparation has involved a considerable amount of labor and travelling:—

WEST RIDING.

Name.	Area in Acres.	Value.
Ernest G. Austin ...	163	£26 16 6
E. C. and J. Bain ...	21.9	4 18 6
J. and J. Bain ...	8.2	1 16 10
Francis Beggs ...	41.5	5 14 1
Charles Bradshaw ...	9.7	1 9 1
Walter B. Bridges ...	100.7	17 12 5
Trustees R. Chirnsire ...	444.9	72 5 11
M. J. and A. Gardiner ...	37.4	5 12 3
J. and J. Keating ...	11.6	2 0 7
J. and W. Lynch ...	6.3	1 8 4
Bernard McCulloch ...	4.2	0 16 9
T. R., J. A., and F. A. Oddie ...	41.7	6 15 6
William O'Neill ...	40	6 10 0
F. W. and T. Rogers ...	30	5 5 0
George Russell ...	208.4	36 9 5
Philip Russell ...	314.3	55 0 0
Adam R. Slater ...	15.6	2 12 6
Donald Stewart ...	111	17 1 0
Misses C. J. and M. Stewart	88.6	12 3 7
D. E. Stoddart ...	276.1	48 6 4
Donald Sutherland ...	3.9	0 13 7
Trustees William Lewis	198	34 13 0
Trustees of R. Thomson	27.3	4 1 10
William Weatherley ...	98.5	14 15 6
Totals ...	2302.8	£384 18 6

EAST RIDING.

Name.	Area in Acres.	Value.
C. H. Bennet ...	12.1	£1 10 3
W. B. Bridges ...	394.4	69 0 4
D. Brown ...	1.3	0 4 4
T. Cheeseman ...	1.5	0 6 0
C. Crawford ...	8.4	1 13 7
J. Greenbank ...	1.5	0 6 0
T. Greenbank ...	3.6	0 16 2
T. and H. G. Kennedy	6.9	0 17 3
T. Lewis ...	2	0 6 0
J. Luke ...	2.9	0 8 8
Wm. G. Martin ...	4	0 12 0
A. McCook ...	31	4 5 3
M. and W. McKay ...	6.1	0 18 8
T. R. Oddie ...	19.4	2 18 2
E. J. D. Raukin ...	9	1 11 6
J. Roddis ...	1	0 5 0
Wm. Bowler ...	6.7	1 2 10
G. Russell ...	114.8	18 13 1
J. Russell ...	203.6	35 12 7
J. Shepherd ...	11.8	1 15 4
A. R. Slater ...	13.7	2 9 1
D. Stewart ...	12.2	2 3 8
W. H. Wilson ...	286.1	48 18 3
Totals ...	1154	£196 13 7

NORTH RIDING.

Name.	Area in Acres.	Value.
Beggs Brothers ...	118.7	£16 6 4
Francis Beggs ...	22	3 0 6
Walter B. Bridges ...	237.1	41 9 9
Charles Campbell ...	84.6	15 17 2
Duncan Carmichael ...	7.1	1 3 8
Thomas Caulfield ...	2.4	0 7 2
Dobson Brothers ...	34.7	5 12 9
Michael Kelly ...	6.8	0 18 3
Isabella McDonald ...	9.6	1 4 0
Morgan O'Brien ...	2.2	0 6 7
James Russell ...	57.2	5 0 2
Philip Russell ...	34.6	4 15 1
George Topper ...	21.1	3 3 3
Totals ...	637.4	£99 4 8
Grand totals ...	4094.2	£680 16 9

It should be noted that the shire valuation is taken as the basis of the value of the land.

At a meeting of the Beaufort Junior Football Club, held at the Mechanics' Institute on Thursday night, it was decided to enter for the Watt trophy against Ararat and Stawell junior clubs.

Bonnington's Irish Moss
To Cure a Cough or Cold.
ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

Indigestion
RESULTING FROM
INFLUENZA
COMPLETELY CURED

The Case of
Mrs. MARY JANE HINTON.

(*From the "Evening News," Sydney.*)

In response to a special request, our reporter stepped up as far as Mrs. Hinton's, who owns a neat grocer's shop in Darling St., Balmain, Sydney. Mrs. Hinton was behind the counter.

"Can you spare a few minutes to chat about Clements Tonic?" asked the reporter.

"With the greatest of pleasure," replied the lady, and our reporter took out his note book and seated himself.

"You know I had influenza," explained the lady, "and that complaint pulls one down terribly—not so much the illness itself, but what it left behind, gave me the most trouble. In my case it left me with indigestion. The doctor said my liver was deranged, and possibly he was right. On many occasions I was seized with frightful headaches, and continually felt so heavy and sluggish that I was hardly able to stand. At night I missed the regular sleep I had been accustomed to, and so in the mornings was very ill-fitted to commence my day's duties. My food was distasteful to me, and many times I rose from a meal unable to get down a single mouthful. Somehow nearly everything I ate made me feel sick, and an uncomfortable feeling of tightness in the chest would remain for hours after eating. On some occasions when I was particularly bad this tight feeling would increase till the pain was unbearable."

"I expect your bad health was a drawback in your business?"

"You are right there. All the strength was taken out of me, and I felt so low and worried that I could take small interest in anything."

"Did your liver affliction betray itself in other ways?"

"Well, sometimes directly after eating I was attacked with severe cramps in the stomach. It was a strange startling pain, and was very terrible whilst it lasted. As may be expected, I didn't look my usual self, but gradually got yellow and haggard. I tried lots of things—all sorts of medicines, but nothing had any action on my liver, or did me any good in any way, till I obtained a bottle of Clements Tonic, and that remedy soon made a great change in the state of my health. It had a fine bracing effect upon my worn-out system, and took away that heavy sluggishness in a very short time. From that moment I could take exercise, and mended remarkably quick. I could eat my meals with a healthy relish, without any suffering or inconveniences afterward, and, thank goodness, I was able to get my regular sleep again and wake up bright and cheerful in the mornings ready to attend to my business. Clements Tonic soon put me into a splendid state of health. Nor am I the only one in our family who has received benefit from that excellent remedy. When my husband was weak and ill we flew to Clements Tonic to restore him, and it braced him up in quick time. I also gave Clements Tonic to my two growing girls with the best effects, especially the younger, who suffered from nervousness for a long time after having had the measles. Clements Tonic, however, strung up her weakened nerves, as she can tell you herself; (here Mrs. Hinton called her daughter—now a fine strong looking girl—who was good enough to confirm what her mother had said). In fact, continued Mrs. Hinton, Clements Tonic has always come successfully to the rescue in our family, and, in all seriousness, I really don't know what we should have done without it."

"You will permit me, then, to put this in the papers?"

"Yes," replied Mrs. Hinton, smiling.

STATUTORY DECLARATION.

I, Mary Jane Hinton, of Darling St., Balmain, Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of three folios and consecutively numbered from one to three, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish the same in any way and I make this solemn declaration voluntarily, and without receiving any payment, conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act made and passed in the ninth year of the reign of her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the more effectual abolition of Oaths and Affirmations taken and made in the various Departments of the Government of New South Wales, and to substitute Declarations in lieu thereof, and for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial Oaths and Affidavits."

Mary Jane Hinton

Declared at Balmain this 21st day of October, 1898, before me, ALFRED HANCOCK, J.P.

Mining News.

The half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Barton Quartz Company takes place at the Mechanics' Institute, Beaufort, on Thursday afternoon next, at 1.45 o'clock.

All Nations Consols tribute, Beaufort.—Troy and party—Panelling in N.W. end with payable results. Yield, 18oz. 7½dwts. Grant and party—Driving and crossouting in the south end with improved returns. Yield, 4oz. Adamthwaite and party—Commenced sinking; now down 7 feet. Morris and party—Sunk shaft to 8 feet. Full yield, 22oz. 7½dwts.

Barton Quartz Co., Beaufort.—Shaft sunk 4½ feet; slabbed and centred 11 feet, the last 7 feet being the enlarged size, 9½ feet by 3½ feet in the clear. Ground hard. Water just the same.

Sam Slick tribute.—Jaensch and party—Driven S.E. off shoot to 135 feet; east off No. 2 south off east to 28 feet; both drives in payable dirt. Yield, 17oz. 10½dwts.

Sons of Freedom Central, Raglan.—Three parties blocking in No. 5 and two parties blocking in No. 4 rises in ground of average quality. Yield for week, 102oz. 5dwts.

Sons of Freedom Junction, Raglan.—Pumping engine and gear about completed; preparing for housing in of same.

The following are the reported local yields for the week ending Saturday last:—Sons of Freedom Central, 102oz. 18dwt.; All Nations Consols—Troy and party's No. 3 tribute, 36oz. 16dwt.; Grant and party's, No. 2 tribute, 10oz.; Sam Slick—Jaensch and party, No. 3 tribute, 23oz. 6dwt. 18gr.; Daughters of Freedom, 11oz. 15dwt.; Last Chance, 7oz. 8dwt.; Brusher's Co., 3oz. 12dwt.; Stevens and party, 2oz. 17dwt.; sundries, 12oz.

ALL NATIONS CONSOLS GOLD MINING COMPANY No Liability, Beaufort.—A DIVIDEND (9th) of Threepence (3d.) per Share has been declared, payable on Tuesday, 14th June, 1904, at the company's office, Ballarat. Transfer books close Monday, 13th inst., until after payment of dividend.

W. D. THOMPSON, Manager.

Exchange, Ballarat.

DOES FARMING PAY
WITH OATS AT 1s. PER BUSHEL?

WE SAY YES.
With Cuming, Smith & Co's. Manures you can get 60 bushels to the acre.
It's the Quantity that Pays.

IT OCCURS TO US THAT

This is a good opportunity to mark our DRAPERY STOCK, at Prices that will be SO LOW that they will pay on account of the QUANTITY we sell.

VASTNESS. VARIETY. VALUE.

Describes our Splendid DRAPERY STOCK of Dresses, Millinery, and Mantles, CLOTHING, BOOTS, &c., &c.
A splendid lot of LADIES' AND GENT'S. MACKINTOSHES have just arrived direct from the makers.
They are marked at exceedingly Low Prices, and are selling themselves.

Always Yours for Serviceable Goods. It's the Quantity that Pays.

J. R. WOTHERSPOON & CO.,
THE UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS,
BEAUFORT AND BUANGOR.

New Insolvent.

George Hill, Beaufort, miner. Liabilities, £85 4s 3d; assets, £1 2s 6d; deficiency, £84 1s 9d. Causes of insolvency—Sickness of family, want of remunerative employment, and pressure of creditors. W. D. McKee, assignee.

Nelson Province Election.

TO THE ELECTORS.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to THANK you for the trust you have placed in me by electing me as one of your Representatives in the Legislative Council. I can assure you it will be my endeavour to represent fairly all sections of the Province for the benefit of the State generally.

Again thanking you for your renewed expressions of confidence,

I am, gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

HANS W. H. IRVINE.

"Vine Lodge,"
Great Western, 8th June, 1904.

Legislative Council.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE NELSON PROVINCE.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to THANK you heartily for the honor you have done me by electing me one of your Representatives in the reformed Legislative Council. I assure you that I will do my utmost to justify the confidence you have reposed in me, and hope when the time comes for me to ask for a renewal of your confidence that my conduct will have been such as will justify you in re-electing me.

Yours obediently,

J. DRYSDALE BROWN.

To the Electors of the Nelson Province.

GENTLEMEN,—Although unsuccessful at the late Election, I beg to tender my sincere thanks to those who supported me on that occasion.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
S. G. BLACK.

Glenormiston,
6th June, 1904.

BARTON QUARTZ COMPANY, No Liability, Beaufort.—Notice.—The ordinary HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the company and of the shareholders therein, is hereby convened to be holden on Thursday, 16th June, 1904, at 1.45 o'clock p.m., at the Mechanics' Institute, Beaufort.

Business—

To receive reports and financial statements.
To elect three directors for twelve months.
To elect two auditors for six months.
To consider and determine on the disposal of the shares in the hands of and the property of the company.
To confirm minutes of meeting.

J. A. CHALK, Manager.

SCHEDULE A.—[RULE 4 (b).]

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A MINING LEASE.

I, the undersigned, hereby give notice that, within ten days from the date hereof, I will leave with the Warden of the Mining Division of Raglan an application for a Lease, the particulars whereof are hereunder set forth:—

Name in full of applicant or applicants, and style under which it is intended that the business shall be carried on—William Henry Grant; "Bushman and Sheet Anchor Gold Mining Co."

Full address of each applicant—Linton.

Supposed extent of ground applied for, and whether on or below the surface, or both, or a lode—30 acres; lode.

Name and address of each person (if any) who is owner of and who is in occupation of the land, so far as the applicant has been able to learn—None.

Full description and precise locality of the ground—Bushman and Sheet Anchor mine; east of Waterloo.

Term required—Fifteen years.

Time of commencing operations—When lease is granted.

Whether the boundaries of the land applied for will include any river, creek, deposit of permanent water, spring, artificial reservoir, public road, or subject to any public rights—None.

General remarks—None.

Date and place—Waterloo, June 7th, 1904.

The metals or minerals for the winning of which this application will be made are—Gold.

If for gold, state whether it is intended to work for quartz or alluvial—Quartz.

If of private land state whether a prospecting area is required.—

Signature of Applicant—W. H. GRANT.

NOTICE TO FARMERS.

DIXON BROS.,
Stock, Station, Grain and Commission Agents, Valuators, and Export Produce Merchants,
Wish to notify the farmers of the surrounding district that they have leased the premises lately occupied by Mr. J. Cuthbertson as Steam Chaff Mills,
OPPOSITE CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.

MONTHLY STOCK SALES
WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THEIR AUCTIONEER, MR. W. H. HALPIN, EVERY THIRD THURSDAY. SIXTH SALE, THURSDAY, JUNE 16th, 1904.
Good yarding advised.
Sales Conducted in any part of the State. Entries received by Mr. R. G. KIRKPATRICK, Local Agent, or Mr. Hill, Camp Hotel.
For PRIVATE SALE, Single-seated ABBOTT BUGGY, two WAGGONETTES, and a second-hand DOUBLE AND TREBLE FURROW PLOUGH. Several FARMS in GEELONG district for SALE or LEASE.
Horse Rugs, Tarpaulins, Water Bags, and Coach Buggy Rugs a speciality.
Agents for Mitchell's Agricultural Implements, Wood's New Century Binder, also the famous Barger Discs.
DIXON BROS., Lawrence Street, BEAUFORT.

FOR SALE, WOOLPRESS (Humble & Nicholson), in first-class order. Apply to A. MATHEWSON, Manager, Mooramong, Skipton.

LOST, on Monday afternoon, between Pratt Street and Beaufort Park, LADY'S GOLD WIRE BROOCH (name, Marion), with 1899 on heart attached. Finder rewarded on returning same to MRS. H. PARKER, Beaufort.

Who Wants a Windmill?
J. R. WOTHERSPOON & CO. have one in first-class order, as good as new. Cost £30; will take £10.

L. BRAVO,
Hairdresser and Tobacconist,
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.
Begs to notify the public of Beaufort and district that he has commenced Business, and hopes by strict attention to business to receive a fair share of public patronage.
SHAVING, 3d.; HAIRCUTTING, 6d.
CHILDREN, 3d.
A Good Assortment of PIPES, TOBACCO, and CIGARS kept in Stock.
A trial solicited. Satisfaction guaranteed.

LAND SELECTION.
BEAUFORT COMMON.
MAY, 1904.
To Lease-holders, Land-owners, and Others.

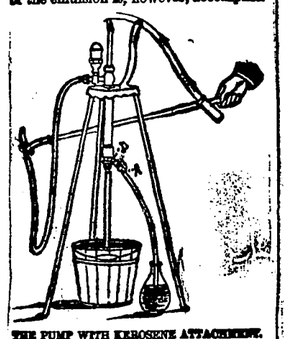
HAWKES BROS.
Beg to notify having made very special arrangements for a large supply of
FENCING MATERIALS,
Including an Extra Big Stock of
BEST GERMAN BLACK FENCE WIRE,
No. 8, at 10s per cwt. Net Cash.
Ton Lots, £9 15s per ton.
This is an Extra Low Price, and takes effect for this month only.
GALVANISED WIRE NETTING,
In all widths, gauges, and meshes. A few examples—36in. x 1½in. x 18g., at 19s 6d coil (100 yds.); 36in. x 1½in. x 17g., at 24s 6d; 42 x 1½in. x 18g., 24s 6d. Special Quotations for Quantities.
GALVANISED FENCING WIRE, No. 8, 13s; No. 10, 14s cwt.
do. BARB WIRE, No. 12 (440yds.), 17s; No. 14 (660yds.), 19s.
LACING WIRE, FENCE DROPPERS (Wood and Steel), STAPLES, NETTING FASTENERS, and all other Requisites at Lowest Current Rates.
BUILDING MATERIALS.
Large Stocks of Hardwood, Pine Weatherboards, T. and G. Flooring, Doors, Sashes, Lime, Cement. Prices on Application.
FURNITURE,
Direct from makers, to suit all purses. Inspect Show Rooms.
District CASH BUYERS of GRAIN, in any quantity.
Also on hand CHAFF, OATS, BRAN, and POLLARD, at Lowest Rates.
A Special Line of FOWL'S WHEAT at 10s Bag.
NOTE ADDRESS—
HAWKES BROS.,
MERCHANTS,
Neill Street, BEAUFORT.

FARM AND GARDEN

APPLYING KEROSENE FOR INSECTS.

Professor Goff's Method as Described In a Report From an Experiment Station.

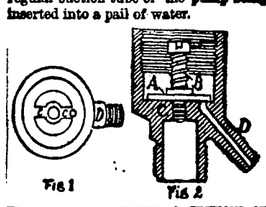
Kerosene emulsion, when properly made and applied, has proved a valuable insecticide for a class of insects not readily destroyed by other means. The making of the emulsion is, however, accomplished with more or less difficulty. Professor Goff, in the hope of discovering a method by which the kerosene and water could be so intimately commingled during the spraying process as to do away with the necessity of preparing the emulsion separately, began experiments in this line which were continued through several seasons until satisfactory results were gained.



THE PUMP WITH KEROSENE ATTACHMENT.

The method is very simple and consists in so constructing the lower valve seat of a pump that it allows the entrance of water through one opening and kerosene through another, the two liquids becoming mixed in passing through the valves and cylinder of the pump and finally broken up into an exceedingly fine spray by being forced through a good spraying nozzle.

The pump used by Professor Goff was the "Little Climax," but other spraying pumps on the market would, it is believed, answer as well with similar modifications. This pump, with its kerosene attachment, is shown in the first cut. The modification is illustrated in detail in the second cut, where the first figure represents a transverse and the second a vertical section of the valve seat. In the pump used the valve and valve seats are of brass. The lower valve shown at A, Fig. 2, is held in place by a screw, B, which fits into a bridge, C (Figs. 2 and 1), extending across the center of the orifice for the entrance of the water. In the modification of the pump a new casting was made similar to the original one except that it had a projection at one side (D, first cut) so placed that a hole drilled through it lengthwise passes through the center of the bridge alluded to near one end. To this projection is attached by a screw coupling a stop cock (A, same cut), and from this a lead or rubber tube extends into a vessel holding kerosene, the regular suction tube of the pump being inserted into a pail of water.



TRANSVERSE AND VERTICAL SECTIONS OF ATTACHMENT.

The operation of the pump is plain. The water enters through the ordinary channel, the kerosene through the side channel, while the valve in closing closes both channels. The mechanical mixture secured by this apparatus, while not absolutely permanent, is sufficiently slow of separation for safe use on plants unless the amount of kerosene exceeds 10 per cent. If it is desired to change the proportion of kerosene, the stop cock is turned in the desired direction, and when one wants to spray with water only the stop cock may be closed or both tubes placed in the water. Farmers in possession of spraying pumps will appreciate this attachment, which is not patented, that secures a thorough and rapid mixture of kerosene and water during the spraying process. Bisulphide of carbon sprayed with water through this attachment makes a mixture that is sufficiently permanent for practical purposes.

Experiments With Tomatoes.

Experiments in tomato growing conducted at the New York Cornell station have been reported upon. The nature of the experiments and their main results may be briefly indicated as follows: (1) Nitrate of soda applied once early in the season gave better results than divided applications continued until late in the season; (2) nitrate of soda alone gave the largest yield before frost and the largest total crop on fairly good soil; (3) the relation of variety to fertilizing is not clearly indicated by the experiments thus far made; (4) early setting (May 9) was better than late setting; (5) seeds for the main crop should be sown in March under glass; (6) transplanting should be done at least twice; (7) pot grown plants did better than flat grown plants; (9) the results of comparisons of seedlings and cuttings were conflicting; (9) there was no gain from using seeds from early fruits; (10) seeds from a mature fruit gave earlier and better yields than those from an immature fruit; (11) "leggy" plants when layered at planting gave relatively large yields; (12) shearing off the tops of plants did not materially affect the yield; (13) hilling did not give favorable results; (14) the results from trimming during three years were indecisive; (15) single stem training increased yield and earliness; (16) fruit rot apparently was not influenced by method of culture or variety; (17) southern blight has appeared in New York; (18) of the new varieties tested in 1903 none proved better than some older varieties.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

Does your head ache? Are you constipated and feel dull or depressed after eating? You are suffering from indigestion and are paving the way for more serious illness. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets are just what need. They will assist the digestion, regulate the bowels and give you new strength and vigor. For sale by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

GETTING EVEN.

How a Discarded Miss Revenged Herself on Her Mother.

"Oh, Beattie, what a dear, delightful little hat! What is it?"

"Beaver."

"Trimmed with those sweet little tails. Now take it off and come and sit down by the fire and tell me all the news. Why, it must be six months since we last met—just when you got engaged to Reggie, you know. Give me your gloves, dear. That's it—oh, Beattie!"

"What's the matter?"

"Where's your ring?"

"My engagement ring?"

"Yes."

"It's off."

"I see it is. Have you lost it?"

"I'm not speaking of the ring. I'm speaking of the engagement."

"What—the engagement's off?"

"Yes."

"Goodness gracious! What's happened?"

"Ah!"

"Have you thrown him over?"

"No."

"Then he's thrown you over?"

"Yes."

"Who for?"

"You'll never guess."

"Then I won't try. Who is it?"

"I'll tell you presently."

"Shall you have him up for breach?"

"No."

"No! You don't seem to mind much."

"I don't mind at all."

"Oh, Beattie! Can you sit there and tell me that you don't mind losing over so many thousands of pounds?"

"I'm not sitting here and telling you anything of the sort."

"Then wasn't it true that Reggie would come into heaps of money when his father died?"

"Quite true, and that's just it."

"What do you mean? Why can't you speak out and tell me instead of being so mysterious?"

"Well, I will. Reggie is going to marry my mother."

"Wha-at!"

"My mother has cut me out."

"Gracious goodness!"

"She's only 35, you know, and"—

"But does she love Reggie?"

"Ah!"

"Does Reggie love her?"

"He's smitten, fascinated, I believe."

"How long has he known her?"

"Only since she returned from Cannes—about a month."

"Reggie's only a boy. However did your mother manage it?"

"She's much prettier than I am, and—well, there you are."

"Reggie'll be your father instead of your husband."

"Isn't it funny? But funnier things may happen than that."

"When did you know?"

"Last night. My mother knew I wasn't desperately fond of Reggie, and she then told me that she was, so I just gave him to her."

"And his money."

"And his possible money."

"Well, his possible money. But what puzzles me is that you take it all so quietly."

"I'm perfectly satisfied."

"You seem quite to lose sight of the fact that Reggie is the only son of a very rich father."

"That's just what I don't lose sight of. That's why I'm so satisfied."

"I've no patience with you."

"My mother has certainly cut me out"—

"Well?"

"But I've cut her out."

"How?"

"And Reggie out."

"How?"

"I'm engaged to his father."

"Goodness gracious me! Then you will be Reggie's mother."

"In a way."

"And he'll be your father, and you'll be mother-in-law to your own mother, and, oh, dear me—ha, ha, ha!"—Buffalo Express.

A Free Lunch Fiet.

"Excuse me," said the seedy man, sidling up to the well dressed citizen, "if I don't mistake, you are just going into the saloon to buy a drink or a cigar or something?"

"I am going to buy myself a drink," answered the citizen, with an accent on the pronoun.

"Oh, I didn't want to brace you for no ball! What I want you to do is to take this here nickel and ask me to have a beer with you."

"I—I don't quite catch on."

"I'll tell you. If I go in and drink with a fine, well fixed man like yourself, I kin afterward stand there and stow away all the lunch I want to. If I go in lookin as I do, with my little old one nickel, I'd get throwed out before I had a chance to take more than four or five forkfuls of the beans and a sandwich or two."

The deal was made.—Cincinnati Tribune.

At the Sign of the Hand.

She was a guileless, innocent thing, and as she passed a sign which read, "Gloves cleaned and repaired," she thought of something all of a sudden and went into the shop.

"I believe you clean and repair gloves here, don't you?" she said to the clerk.

"Yes, miss," he replied.

"Well, I have one at home that I'll send down to you. It doesn't need cleaning very much, but I want it repaired. I've lost the mate to it."

Then she retired, and the clerk is waiting and wondering how he will get square with that sign.—Detroit Free Press.

Proved.

"Do you loved me, mamma?"

"Yes, my child."

"But not so much as I love you, I am sure."

"Why not?"

"Because you have to divide your love between me and my two sisters, while I have only one mamma to love."—Figaro.

Whither Are We Drifting?

Lawyer (in 1994)—You want a divorce from your wife? On what ground?

Husband (sobbing bitterly)—Nonsupport, ma'am. I have had to earn my living for a whole year. And I was raised, oh, so delicately!—Chicago Tribune.

Accustomed to Something Like It.

"It's all wonderfully interesting," said one of the fair visitors at the big packing house, "but the odors are very trying."

"Why, I don't observe any odors," said the one whose husband is a naturalist.—Chicago Record.

A Modest Effort.

Teacher—I will award the medal to the boy who suggests the most appropriate motto for the schoolroom.

Dick Hicks—We study to please.—New York World.

INFLUENZA

Can be cured by commencing, at the first symptoms, to use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Thousands have used this remedy during the past year, and we have to learn of a single case where they were not pleased. For sale by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Football.

BEAUFORT v. ARARAT.

AN EASY VICTORY FOR BEAUFORT.

On Monday (Prince of Wales' birthday) the above clubs met for the first time this season in the Beaufort Park, the game resulting in an easy win for Beaufort, who scored 7 goals 17 behinds (59 points), to Ararat's 2 goals (12 points). S. Young captained the local team, and Neylan was appointed, in the absence of their captain, to lead the visitors, who had several of their best players absent. Beaufort kicked towards the lake goal, and soon after play commenced it became evident that the visitors were overmatched, as Ararat had to defend their goal time after time. Eventually the defence, despite the fine play of H. Burns and W. Murphy, was broken through, and a goal resulted, Lynch doing the trick. Hardy, L. Lilley (2), Lynch, and Tyrrell (2) added behinds to Beaufort's score, and just before the quarter ended Lynch kicked a nice angle goal. Ararat did not score a point. In this quarter W. Cheeseman played a dashing game, his high-marking and judgment in passing the ball along, as well as good kicking, being admired on all sides. Tyrrell also shone out. H. Burn, W. Murphy, "Boots" Burns, and Bryant, for Ararat, played with good judgment, the two first-mentioned defending their goal repeatedly in fine style. In the second quarter Beaufort added five behinds to their total, whilst Ararat did not score, and at half-time Beaufort had scored 23 points to nil. The third quarter was the most exciting of all, for Ararat played much better football, and scored 2 goals (kicked by "Boots" Burns and Collum)—the only points scored during the game. Beaufort registered 3 goals (kicked by W. Hannah and Hardy (2), and 3 behinds. Beaufort had a lead of 32 points when the final quarter opened, and their score was further increased by 2 goals (kicked by Tyrrell and Hardy), and 3 behinds, and the game thus ended in a decisive win for Beaufort. The Beaufort team are to be complimented on the improved form shown by them, and the way in which they played together was admired by their supporters on all sides. Each and every player did his and their share of the work, not a "stiff" one being amongst them. The most conspicuous players for the winners were—W. Cheeseman (who played the best game on the ground), Sneddon, Tyrrell, E. Hannah, Hardy, Young, Holdsworth, W. Hannah, and Lynch. For the losers, H. Burns, W. Murphy, and "Boots" Burns played dashing football, being ably assisted by Bryant, Philpot, Neylan, McDonald, Collum, and Chiunock. Mr W. McKinnon, of Ballarat, acted as field umpire in a very impartial manner, and if he had stopped so much scrimmaging, and thereby made the game a more open one, he would have been perfect, for he was very strict in all the other departments of the game. The Beaufort Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr A. Prout, played several selections during the afternoon, which were much admired by those present. The amount taken at the gates was £3 11s. The Ararat team were treated to a dinner at the Golden Age Hotel in the evening.

BEAUFORT v. WARRAK.

BEAUFORT AGAIN WIN EASILY.

On Saturday last the above clubs met on the ground of the former in a friendly game of football. Beaufort proved too strong, however, winning easily by 15 goals 11 behinds to Warrak's 1 behind. The goal-kickers were—L. Lilley (5), Hardy (4), A. C. Welsh (2), and Rowe and D. Adams 1 each. Mr C. W. Jones acted as field umpire, and gave satisfaction.

BEAUFORT JUNIORS v. WATERLOO.

THE JUNIORS SCORE A WIN.

On Monday morning the Beaufort junior club journeyed to Waterloo to try conclusions with the seniors of that place, and after a close and exciting game, won by 38 points to 22 points. Messrs L. Lilley and M. Tyrrell umpired the match two quarters each, giving satisfaction to both teams.

A football match will be played in the Beaufort Park this afternoon, commencing at 3 o'clock, between the Beaufort and Ballarat Central Clubs, and a close and exciting game is anticipated. A charge of sixpence will be made for admission to the ground. A Ballarat field umpire has been engaged. The Beaufort team will be represented by the following:—Young, Tyrrell, Cheeseman (2), Hardy, Lilley (2), White, Holdsworth, Hannah (2), Welsh, Stuart, Robertson, McDonald, Adams, Rowe, Lynch, Schlicht, O'Brien, Sneddon, McLean, and Wm. Anderson.

STOCKYARD HILL v. SKIPTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Stockyard Hill journeyed to Skipton on Saturday last to play the local club. The weather was very unpropitious, and as a consequence the visiting team was poorly represented, and had to seek assistance to bring the team to its full strength. The first quarter was evenly contested, the scores being—Skipton, 1 goal 1 behind; Stockyard Hill, 1 goal. At the half-time bell Skipton had increased their score to 4 goals 3 behinds, while their opponents added a goal. The last half saw the ball travelling rapidly from one end of the ground to the other, Skipton gradually increasing their lead till the bell sounded, when the scores stood—Skipton, 8 goals 6 behinds (54 points); Stockyard Hill, 3 goals 1 behind (19 points). The goal-kickers for Skipton were—A. Wilkie (4), Chirnside (2), Grist, and Tait; and for Stockyard Hill—Wm. Anderson, McDonald, and Stoddart.

Stockyard Hill play Streatham on Saturday (to-day), on the Hill ground.

"Theirs not to reason why," sang Tennyson, of the Light Brigade. In lighter strain the achievement of the deputy returning officer for Mount Eccles, near Learmonth, and his unswerving devotion to duty deserves to be recorded. He was appointed to conduct the voting in connection with the referendum. Elector after elector appeared, only to find that his name was not on the roll. The entire population of Mount Eccles had in fact been overlooked in the compilation of the rolls; but the returning officer, undeterred by this circumstance, sat sternly on, waiting for the arrival of the voteless residents, whose opinions on Scripture reading were perforce expressed verbally, and occasionally, says the "Argus," in unscriptural language.

Bonnington's Irish Moss Cures Whooping Cough, Coughs, All Chest Affections.

SENT NINE BOTTLES OF CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY TO HER FRIENDS.

"A lady customer of mine was so well pleased with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy which she had used for her children when suffering from colds and croup," says F. W. J. Fletcher, a chemist at Homebush, Victoria, "that during a fortnight's time she obtained at my shop nine bottles, which she sent to friends in different parts of the State, telling them how much good it had done and advising them to give it a trial." Sold by by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Nelson Province Election.

The complete returns for the election of two members to represent the Nelson Province in the Legislative Council show that Messrs Hans W. H. Irvine and J. Drysdale Brown have secured an easy victory. As was expected Mr Irvine polled very strongly in all parts of the province, and had a majority of 631 over the next nearest candidate, Mr Brown. The following were the results:—

H. W. H. Irvine	...	3004
J. D. Brown...	...	2373
S. G. Black ...	...	1818
R. Richardson	...	1157
T. Dowling ...	...	1104

CURED OF NEURALGIA.

"I had been suffering for some time with a very bad attack of neuralgia," writes E. J. Potter, Esq., of Yea, Victoria, "when I was informed by Mr Fred. Purcell, of the establishment of Messrs E. S. Purcell & Co., that Chamberlain's Pain Balm was highly recommended for my complaint. Acting on his suggestion, I bought a bottle, and as soon as I returned home, applied same according to directions, and to my great delight I experienced immediate relief, and it only took a few applications to effect a complete cure." For sale by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Important to Applicants for Mining Leases.

Applicants for leases within the district covered by *The Riponshire Advocate* are invited to peruse the following facts:—

The New Mining Regulations require that when a lease is marked out the applicant "shall insert in a newspaper PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT WHERE THE LAND IS SITUATED, or if no such newspaper, then in the one published nearest the district, an advertisement or notice in the form marked A in the schedule prescribed."

Ten days are allowed, after marking out the lease, in which to lodge the application with the Warden or his clerk, and forward a duplicate to the Minister of Mines.

The word "district" in the regulations has been defined by the Crown Solicitor to be read as locality, and not as mining district, and the lease should therefore be advertised in the paper nearest the and for which application is to be made. As TEN days (not seven as formerly) are given in which to complete the application, no valid excuse can now be urged for failure to advertise the lease in the district paper, though it has only a weekly, and not a daily issue.

This is borne out by the following memo. from the Mines Department received by Mr H. A. Adams, *Grenville Standard*, Linton.—"Sir,—Referring to your communication, I have the honor to inform you that the Warden's clerk at Smythesdale has been instructed to advise intending applicants for mining leases, where opportunity offers [i.e., for tendering such advice], that the regulation relating to advertising their applications should be STRICTLY ADHERED TO.—I have the honor to be, etc., P. Cohen, for Sec. of Mines and Water Supply."

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY not only cures colds and influenza, but counteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. It always cures and cures quickly. Sold by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

The Twentieth Century Fund, formed to raise one million guineas for the extension of Wesleyan Methodist Church work, has realised its ambition. The majority of the donations were in contributions of one guinea. The money has been allocated as follows:—£300,000 for the erection and enlargement of chapels, Sunday schools, manses, soldiers' and sailors' homes, etc.; £200,000 for educational work; £100,000 for foreign missions; £100,000 for home missions and temperance work; £50,000 for the children's home; £250,000 for a central hall in London.

CLARKE'S 41 B PILLS are warranted to cure in either sex, all acquired or constitutional Discharges from the Urinary Organs, Gravel and Pains in the Back. Free from Mercury. Established upwards of 30 years. Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the world. Proprietors, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England.

A sample of what may be expected when Labor "captures the State Parliament"—as its leaders predict will take place very soon—was furnished at a Labor "rally" held at Melbourne on Saturday night. One shining socialistic light—Mr S. Roberts to wit—gleefully informed the meeting that "when Mr Bent got Solly and Hannah at him he would wish to God he had died when he had the measles." Mr Marshall Lyle—from whom better things might have been expected—remarked that "there were a number of benevolent old gentlemen at Brighton who had better be kept there, for if they came to Melbourne they would be mobbed." He did not explain whether it was the crime of benevolence or old age for which they ought to "mobbed" (says the "Star"), but this plea for lawlessness, coming from such a source, may well cause supporters of the Socialists to pause and consider whither they are being led.

The miser sat amongst his gold.
"I would not part," he said,
"With half-a-guinea, tho' my life
Were to be forfeited.
But influenza got him down,
His breathe grew short and fewer—
"Take *all* I've got, he cried, but give
Me WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT CURE.

A TRIBUTE from NORTH MELBOURNE

The Case of Mr T. BRENNAN.

(*By a Special Reporter.*)

During an interview, almost the first words of Mr. Thomas Brennan, bootmaker, of No. 1 Arden-street, North Melbourne, to a reporter, were to put aside all delay and place the following important facts before the public as soon as possible:—

"Because," continued Mr. Brennan, "such information must be of great value to anybody in similar circumstances to those experienced by myself some time back."

"Yes," assented the reporter, "and I would like you to tell me everything."

"I have no desire to withhold any information that will do good to others, so you can take down every word I utter. It was with my nerves and my liver that I had been ailing for a long time, and although I had been treated with all kinds of tonics and all kinds of medicines, I can truthfully say I got no benefit from them. As you might well expect I got exceedingly low-spirited at this, and eventually my spirits were so limp and droopy that I could not arouse a bit of interest in any mortal thing that was going on. Had the elections been on, as they are now, I would have taken no heed of them, as if the welfare of the country was no concern of mine, and it was the same in regard to business—it did not matter to me what happened."

"That is a very undesirable frame of mind to be in."

"There is no doubt of that," replied Mr. Brennan, "but what is a man to do when he has not got the inclination for work, nor the strength to do it even if he had the desire? I think it's the most deplorable state a man can be in, and I thank the Lord these miseries for me are over, because I know of a remedy to cure them."

"How did you find it out?"

"By reading some testimonials in the daily press—testimonials about Clements Tonic, and I was so impressed by what I read that I got some the same day, and from then till the termination of my distress I experienced nothing but a series of successes. Ah! my word, it was a grand relief, too, for instead of being restless all night, as I had been for months and months, I could always sleep quite peacefully, and another thing I was glad of was to be free from that heavy feeling in the chest, which always came when I had eaten a little food. Indeed, I have a great deal to thank Clements Tonic for, as it entirely cured my headaches—from which I was scarcely ever free for a moment—while the pains across the small of my back, which were almost a curse to me at one time, were also removed by the same grand medicine. To tell you the truth, I seemed like a different man altogether after I had been on Clements Tonic a couple of weeks, as I rose in the mornings without any fur on the tongue or any bitter taste in the mouth, and feeling as lithe and active as any man could be."

"The rest you were getting would help you in that direction."

"Naturally, for now I never dream horrible dreams like I formerly did if I dozed for a while, and that would account for being so thoroughly rested when I awoke. And you know I had been very weak, and so nervous that I could not bear the least noise, which always gave me a start, and made me quite irritable; but soon, thank God, nothing could disturb me, and for the great release that had come to my sufferings, Clements Tonic was the one medicine to thank. I came from Ireland a good while back, and have carried on business in this shop for the past seven years, and a good few of my customers know what a wonderful difference Clements Tonic made in me, and also to a relative of mine who was very ill indeed; but for all that I think the whole world should hear what a remarkable remedy it is for giving an appetite and curing all liver and nervous disorders, and I would like you to publish this account of my complete cure in any way that will give the matter the most publicity."

"I will circulate your story through the press."

"That will be the best course, and I trust many people will profit by my experience."

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, THOMAS BRENNAN, of No. 1 Arden-street North Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of four folios, and consecutively numbered from one to four, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish in any manner my statements—which I give voluntarily, and without receiving any payment; and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of an Act of the Parliament of Victoria, rendering persons making a false declaration punishable for wilful and corrupt perjury.

Thomas Brennan

Declared at North Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, this 14th January, 1904, before me, EDWARD FITZGERALD, J.P., a Justice of the Peace in and for the Central Bailiwick of the State of Victoria.

Railway Time-Table.

The following is the new railway time-able, which took effect on Monday 2nd May, 1904:—A mixed train leaves Ballarat at 11.20 a.m., Trawalla at 12.7 p.m., reaching Beaufort at 12.22, and taking its departure at 12.30. It leaves Middle Creek at 12.54, and Buangor at 1.4. The Adelaide express still leaves Melbourne at 4.40 p.m. (Sundays excepted), Ballarat at 7.50, and Beaufort at 8.44 (arriving here at 8.39). On the return journey to Melbourne (Monday excepted) the express leaves Beaufort at 6.25 a.m. (arriving here at 6.20). The afternoon mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat runs every week day. It departs from Buangor at 4.45 p.m., Middle Creek at 4.55, Beaufort at 5.30 (arriving here at 5.20), Trawalla at 5.54, and Burrumbeet at 6.9. A mixed train will also leave Ballarat and intervening stations to Stawell on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5.10 a.m. (arriving here at 6.50 a.m., and leaving at 6.55 a.m.), and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 5.15 p.m., Burrumbeet at 6.9, Trawalla at 6.35, Beaufort at 7 (arriving here at 6.50), Middle Creek at 7.30, and Buangor at 7.42. The morning mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat leaves Stawell at 6 a.m. instead of 6.15 a.m., and is timed to leave the district stations every week day as follows:—Buangor, 7.48; Middle Creek, 8; Beaufort, 8.37 (arriving here at 8.27); Trawalla, 8.50; Burrumbeet, 9.16.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere. Wholesale depôt 33, Farrington Road, London, England.

W. EDWARD,
Painter, Paperhanger, and Glazier
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.
Dealer in Paints, Oils, Colors, Paperhangings Window Glass, Varnishes, Brushes, etc., etc.
All sorts of Vehicles Re-painted. Estimates given in town and country. All Painters' Requisites kept in stock.

W. EDWARD NICKOLS & CHESTERFIELD
(LATE W. EDWARD NICKOLS),
Auctioneers and General Commission, House, Land, and Insurance Agents,
BEAUFORT, ARARAT, AND PITFIELD.
MR. J. H. CHESTERFIELD, Auctioneer.
☞ MONEY TO LEND.
AUCTION SALES CONDUCTED in any part of the State of Victoria.
Every attention, and prompt returns.
W. EDWARD NICKOLS & CHESTERFIELD, Auctioneers.

CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.
THE PROPRIETOR of the above well-known Hostelry, in thanking residents of Beaufort and district for the very liberal patronage bestowed on the house during the past two years, takes this favorable opportunity to let them know that the HOTEL has lately been thoroughly RENOVATED, PAINTED, and where necessary, RE-FURNISHED, and patrons will now find the
Accommodation Unsurpassed in the District.
Best Brands of Wines, Spirits and Ales will be retailed, as heretofore, with every civility.
WILLIAM J. HILL, Proprietor.

F. G. PRINCE
Begs to intimate that he has STARTED BUSINESS as a BUTCHER in premises in
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT
(next door to Mr. T. Sands), and hopes by strict attention to business and by keeping the Primest Meat, to merit a fair share of public patronage.
Small Goods a Speciality.

T. E. SANDS,
Cash Grocer,
Begs to inform the public of Beaufort and district that he has removed his business to the Corner of NEILL and LAWRENCE STREETS, BEAUFORT, and by keeping only Best Quality Goods, at Lowest Rates, hopes to secure a fair share of public patronage. Orders called for.

J. B. COCHRAN begs to intimate that having purchased Miss Wilson's Stock of FANCY GOODS, TOYS, CONFECTIONERY, etc., he intends carrying on this Business, in conjunction with his NEWS AGENCY and STATIONERY BUSINESS, in the premises formerly occupied by Miss Wilson, next door to Wotherspoon & Co's. Ladies are notified that Afternoon Tea can be obtained. Accordeons, Concertinas Violins, and Musical Sundries kept in Stock. A good assortment of Pipes Tobacco, and Cigarettes

WM. C. PEDDER,
Wheelwright and Blacksmith,
Begs to thank the public of Beaufort and surrounding district for their patronage during the last 15 years, and to intimate that he is still carrying on business at the same old address,
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT,
with a staff of skilled mechanics and up-to-date machinery, and is prepared to execute any orders entrusted to him with promptness and despatch. Prices as low as possible, consistent with good workmanship. Horses as usual carefully shod.

Police Magistrate's Fixtures.

The following are the police magistrate's permanent engagements in the Ballarat district, with the necessary proviso, added by Mr Dickson, "unless otherwise engaged":—

Ballarat—10 a.m., daily.
Ballarat East—10 a.m., 3rd Wednesday and fourth Thursday.
Beaufort—1.30 p.m., 1st Thursday and fourth Tuesday.
Bungaree—9 a.m., 4th Monday.
Buninyong—3.15 p.m., 3rd Friday.
Carngham—2 p.m., 2nd Wednesday.
Gordon—9 a.m., 2nd Monday.
Linton—2 p.m., 1st Saturday.
Learmonth—12.30 p.m., 1st Tuesday.
Kaleno—11 a.m., 2nd Tuesday.
Scarsdale—Noon, 3rd Thursday.
Sebastopol—3.30 p.m., 2nd Thursday
Skipton—10 a.m., 2nd Wednesday.
Smythesdale—Noon, 3rd Tuesday.

REFERRING TO THE NEW

REGAL CLUB WHISKY,

Which since its importation to Victoria, within the last six months, has established itself in public favor to an extent HITHERTO UNEQUALLED PROBABLY BY ANY OTHER WHISKY THAT HAS COME INTO THE STATE, the following Certificate from one of the most eminent of English analysts gives it at once a hall-mark of superiority, which must recommend it to the confidence of every consumer:—

CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify that I have submitted to a very careful Chemical Analysis a sample of the REGAL CLUB WHISKY received from the Imperial Glenlivet Distillery, Strathspey, N.B., and the analytical data I have obtained proves it to be, in a conclusive manner, a product of high quality and purity. It possesses a mellow and creamlike flavor that is only to be found in the choicest whiskies, and is entirely free from all acrid or undesirable admixture. It has been thoroughly and naturally matured by age, and contains restorative and dietetic properties of a high order.

GRANTVILLE H. SHARP, F.C.S.,
Analyst, London, E.C.

J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Agents.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

In thanking the public for the support accorded me for the past 4½ years, I beg to announce that I have taken the

Golden Age Hotel, Beaufort,

And trust by keeping the very

Best Liquors in Stock,

to receive a share of public patronage.

I will be in possession on and after Saturday, January 30th.

MEALS a Specialty, from 1s.

A careful Groom always in attendance.

C. W. JONES.

LINCOLN STUART & CO. PTY. LTD.
Flinders St. Melbourne.
for
MEN'S & BOYS Clothing, Ties, Shirts, Underwear, Hats, Boots, Etc. Etc.

NO MATTER WHERE

you live, we fit you without your leaving your fireside, and with no more trouble than the writing of a letter. You can, through the post office, bring our warehouse to your door.

FAMOUS

Two Guinea to Measure Suits

THE BEST VALUE IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Write for self-measurement forms and patterns of our New Season's Goods. Magnificent selection

The only Machine that leaves Land Perfectly Level.

This Patent Style of Machine is the only machine perfectly and completely controlled by Compound Levers to instantly set machine in and out of cut, or deeper or shallower when travelling. Made all size.

6ft. Premier.

PATENT MALLEE KING STEEL OR WOOD-FRAMED DISC,
Renowned for immense quantities and quality of work done.
Leads Everywhere.

ORCHARDIST'S EXTENSION DISC

Patent Extension and Reversible Double Beam Steel Frame Orchard Cultivator, will extend out to 10ft. or 12ft. wide, and close up to 5ft. 6in. Simple and easy managed in every particular.

ONE-HORSE or PONY DOT,

For smaller Growers, suitable for Vineyards, Nursery Growers, Small Orchards Potato and Onion Growers, is built on Reversible and Extension Principle.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES.

W. G. BARGER,
SOHO DISC FACTORY,
231 & 233 FRANKLIN-ST., MELBOURNE, AND BOORT.
☞ AGENTS FOR BEAUFORT AND DISTRICT—DIXON BROS.

Printed and published by the Proprietor, ARTHUR PARKER, at the office of *The Riponshire Advocate* newspaper, Lawrence-street, Beaufort, Victoria

No. 1386

RELIABILITY.
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What a lot in that one associated with any business and what a vast amount there bracketed with a WATCHMA JEWELLERY BUSINESS.

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Our business going ahead w were standing still or going ba

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Of what our business is now c what it was a few years back.

YOU MUST GUESS

That there is something powe vincing about our method of doin ARE YOU ONE OF PAYNE'S MERS? If not, we respectful your patronage, and if afterwar not think we are worthy of perfectly willing to lose it.

Whatever is done here is done Whatever we sell you is "Rig full sense of that word.

Our stock embraces everythi Watch, Clock, and Jewellery li good selection is shown in every there is one lot of goods more other we would like you to ins our fine selection of Rings—eithe Rings and Keepers, Dress and ment Rings, or Gent's. Rings.

We have a beautiful stock of Marquise, Diamond Half-hoop, s set Dress and Engagement Rin prices.

Another thing we wish you t mind is that all PAYNE'S RI made by Expert Ring-makers o can buy a ring here with confid rest assured that it has passed hands whose owners have ma making a life-long study. Of co can see from the foregoing th undoubtedly our specialty; but selection of other goods is shown Including Brooches, Links, Muff Chains, Photo Pendants Gold and Silver Chains, Lockets, Necklets, Gold, Silver, Nickel, metal Watches, Clocks, Spectacl

Sight Tested and Spectacles Measure. We can guarantee y faction in every description o Clock, and Jewellery REPAIRS workmen employed in each bran trade.

The Address is—

GEORGE PAYN

WATCHMAKER and JEW

BALLARAT

(Two doors down Sturt-street

Post Office.)

FUNERAL REF
Established 1860.
A. H. SANI
(Late Wm. Baker),
UNDERTAKER
Opposite the State Scho
NEILL STREET, BEAUFO
Hearse and other requisites sup town or country.
Funerals of all classes furnishe lowest possible charges.
Post, Telegraph, and Telepho sages promptly attended t

A. H. SAND
Cabinet Maker, Uphols and Picture Frame
A well-assorted stock of S Timber, Picture Framing, Pain and Window Glass kept on hand.

Give your orders for JOB PRIN the newspaper in your district, b prints thousands of reports and tions for which it receives no whatever. It is always spending and money to benefit and imp prospects of the place through circulates. It gives you value i for your printing ord

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA 21 JUN. 04

The Riponshire Advocate.

No. 1386 | Registered at General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a newspaper. | BEAUFORT, SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1904 | PRICE THREEPENCE

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What a lot in that one word when associated with any business whatever, and what a vast amount there is in it when bracketed with a WATCHMAKER'S and JEWELLERY BUSINESS.

YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED

Our business going ahead while others were standing still or going backwards.

YOU MUST HAVE AN IDEA

Of what our business is now compared to what it was a few years back.

YOU MUST GUESS

That there is something powerfully convincing about our method of doing business. ARE YOU ONE OF PAYNE'S CUSTOMERS? If not, we respectfully ask for your patronage, and if afterwards you do not think we are worthy of it, we are perfectly willing to lose it.

Whatever is done here is done properly. Whatever we sell you is "Right" in the full sense of that word.

Our stock embraces everything in the Watch, Clock, and Jewellery line, and a good selection is shown in everything. If there is one lot of goods more than any other we would like you to inspect it is our fine selection of Rings—either Wedding Rings and Keepers, Dress and Engagement Rings, or Gent's. Rings.

We have a beautiful stock of Diamond Marquise, Diamond Half-hoop, and Gipsy-set Dress and Engagement Rings, at all prices.

Another thing we wish you to bear in mind is that all PAYNE'S RINGS are made by Expert Ring-makers only. You can buy a ring here with confidence, and rest assured that it has passed through hands whose owners have made ring-making a life-long study. Of course, you can see from the foregoing that this is undoubtedly our specialty; but a splendid selection of other goods is shown as well, including Brooches, Links, Bracelets, Muff Chains, Photo Pendents, Gent's. Gold and Silver Chains, Lockets, Medals, Necklets, Gold, Silver, Nickel, and Gunmetal Watches, Clocks, Spectacles, &c.

Sight Tested and Spectacles Made to Measure. We can guarantee you satisfaction in every description of Watch, Clock, and Jewellery REPAIRS. Expert workmen employed in each branch of the trade.

The Address is—

GEORGE PAYNE,

WATCHMAKER and JEWELLER,

BALLARAT

(Two doors down Sturt-street from the Post Office.)

FUNERAL REFORM.
Established 1860.

A. H. SANDS
(Late Wm. Baker),
UNDERTAKER,
Opposite the State School,
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.

Hearse and other requisites supplied in town or country.

Funerals of all classes furnished at the lowest possible charges.

Post, Telegraph, and Telephone Messages promptly attended to.

A. H. SANDS,
Cabinet Maker, Upholsterer, and Picture Framer.

A well-assorted stock of Softwood Timber, Picture Framing, Paints, Oils, and Window Glass kept on hand.

Give your orders for JOB PRINTING to the newspaper in your district, because it prints thousands of reports and notifications for which it receives no payment whatever. It is always spending its time and money to benefit and improve the prospects of the place through which it circulates. It gives you value in return for your printing orders.

An advertisement is a paper man's marketable commodity, and it is quite as much so as a side of bacon, a pound of butter, or a ton of flour. No man can afford to give away the things he sells for a livelihood, and the man who does so in order to get business is generally in a bad way. Don't try to put the paper man "in a bad way." But exercise a little human nature. Support him; he needs encouragement and support; but do it in the legitimate way. If the printer gets a few pounds worth of printing orders from you, he is not in a position to give you a pound's worth of advertising for nothing. And you have had value for the printing already. Go into a grocer's or draper's for L3 worth of goods, and the grocer's man or draper will not throw in gratis L1 worth of something else that you may ask for. Try him! you don't believe us.

SUPPORT

LOCAL INDUSTRY,

AND

SUBSCRIBE

TO THE

LOCAL PAPER,

THE

RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE.'

We ask that our efforts for the district's good shall be recognised. An increased circulation means still greater usefulness on our part. When a neighbour or friend asks for the loan of the local paper, tell him or her that for the small sum of

3s per Quarter

It is obtainable direct from the office regularly.

In addition to complete and impartial reports of all local meetings, an interesting

14-Column Supplement

Is presented to Regular Subscribers.

ORDERS FOR

Plain and Ornamental

JOB PRINTING

Executed with Neatness and Despatch.

Bear in mind that

ADVERTISING

ALWAYS PAYS.

Business men should note that as the Local Paper is extensively read in the district, it therefore affords a splendid advertising medium.

A Safe Remedy for all Skin and Blood Diseases.

If you suffer from any disease due to an impure state of the Blood, from whatever cause arising, you should test the value of Clarke's Blood Mixture, the world-famed Blood Purifier and Restorer. This medicine has 40 years' reputation, and is to-day more popular than ever, the reason of this being undoubtedly because this wonderful remedy does what it professes to do—it cures skin and blood diseases permanently.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

IS THE FINEST BLOOD PURIFIER EVER DISCOVERED.

It is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For

SCROFULA,	BAD LEGS,
SCURVY,	BLOTCHES,
ECZEMA,	SPOTS,
BLOOD POISON,	BLACKHEADS,
ULCERS,	PIMPLES,
SKIN and BLOOD DISEASES,	and SORES OF ALL KINDS,

it is a safe and permanent remedy.

It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains, for it removes the cause from the Blood and Bones.

NOTE.—This mixture is pleasant to the taste and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, and the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it.

TRIED MANY THINGS WITHOUT BENEFIT UNTIL I TOOK CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE.

Mr F. E. Lewis, 48 Bridge Street, Row, Chester, writes:—"Just a line in favour of 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I had eczema for seven months, and tried many things without benefit until I took your remedy. After the eighth bottle I was quite well again. Please accept this letter as a token of gratitude to your wonderful 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.'"—June 13, 1903.

ECZEMA AND IRRITATING SKIN TROUBLE CURED.

Mr W. G. Weston, care of Messrs Knott, of 49, Essex-street, Kingsland-road, N.E., writes:—"Gentlemen,—"I feel it my duty to inform you of the great benefit in health I have received through taking your famous 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I have been a sufferer from eczema and an irritating skin trouble since the age of thirteen. While an out-patient at one of the big London hospitals a doctor informed me that my disease was the result of looking after foreign horses. I have had as many as thirty horses under my care, my father being a horsedealer and jobmaster. He (my father) was speaking one day to a friend of mine who mentioned that he was being cured of an ulcerated leg, due to a horse-kick, by 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I continued, however, to suffer until April 4 last, when my friend told me he was completely cured. Then I started to take 'Clarke's Blood Mixture' myself, and I am now completely cured, after suffering and being disfigured for several years. I am able to follow my employment, and am very pleased to think there is such a valuable remedy obtainable for such a small sum. I should be pleased to answer any inquiries concerning my case."—July 17, 1903.

ANOTHER PERMANENT CURE OF BAD LEGS AND ABSCESSES.

Mr James Waring, of Clay Coton Lodge, near Rugby, writes:—"It is with great pleasure that I write to tell you of the benefit I have derived from taking 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' For a long time I suffered with bad legs and abscesses. I was under a doctor for five months, and, not getting much better, I went as an out-patient to the local hospital for nine weeks. The doctor then told me I should have to go inside before he could do anything for me. I went in and stayed for thirteen weeks, and after undergoing two operations I got a little better. Before I had been out of hospital a week I became worse than ever, so my wife told me to try 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I did so, and after taking five bottles and using four pots of your salve I was completely cured. I have waited twelve months to see if my legs broke out again, but, thanks to your 'Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture,' I am as well to-day as I have ever been in my life. You can make whatever use you like of this letter."—Oct. 15, 1903.

IMPURITIES IN THE BLOOD.—"We have seen hosts of letters from all sorts and conditions of people, in which the writers acknowledge the benefit they have received from Clarke's Blood Mixture, which as a curative agent cannot be too highly estimated, since it cleanses and clears the blood from all impurities, and restores it to its normal condition." This is a good testimonial from the *Family Doctor*, the popular medical weekly, which goes on further to say:—"It is certainly the finest blood purifier that science and skill have brought to light, and we can with the utmost confidence recommend it to our subscribers and the public generally."

Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

Ask for

Clarke's Blood Mixture,

and beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

RE MINING LEASES.

It is notified for general information that applicants for Mining Leases are required, within seven days previous to lodging the application, to insert in a newspaper published in the district where the land is situated, or if no such newspaper, then in one published nearest the district, an advertisement or notice in the form marked "A" in the schedule relating to Mining Leases.

Justices' Fixtures.

The local J's.P. have arranged to attend the Beaufort Courts of Petty Sessions as under:—Second Tuesday.—Messrs F. Beggs, J. R. Wotherspoon, and Rear-Admiral Bridges. Fourth Tuesday.—Messrs M. Flynn, G. Topper, and T. Beggs.

THROAT AFFECTION AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight" cold, or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic Affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European Depot, 33, Farringdon Road, London, England.

GENERAL PRINTING

AT LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES,

"The Advocate" Office, Beaufort

Postal Intelligence.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS.

MAIL TIME TABLE.

RAILWAY.

Daily.	Closing Time. a.m.	p.m.
Melbourne ...	...	8 and 4.50
Ballarat ...	...	8 and 4.50
Geelong ...	...	8 and 4.50
Trawalla ...	...	8 and 4.50

Registered mail and parcels post close 20 minutes prior.

Ararat, 11.50 a.m., and 8 p.m. (including Sundays.)

Stawell ...	11.50	8 p.m. Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.
Middle Creek,	11.50	
Murtoa ..	11.50	
Buangor ...	11.50	

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

English mail per Mail Steamer, via Adelaide, 8 p.m. every Wednesday.

COUNTRY.

Daily	a.m.
Raglan	9.15
Waterloo	9.15
Waterloo S., ...	9.15
Main Lead, ...	9.15
Chute	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday.	
Nerring	9.15
Lake Goldsmith ...	9.15
Stockyard Hill ...	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m.

Eurambeen	12.45
Shirley, ...	12.45

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

MAILS INWARD.

Arrive Daily.

From Melbourne, Ballarat, Geelong, and Trawalla.—12.20 p.m. daily and 8.40 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. From Melbourne and Ballarat, 7 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

From Ararat, Stawell, Middle Creek, and Murtoa.—5.30 p.m. daily. Ararat, Stawell, and Buangor, 8.30 a.m. daily.

From Waterloo, Waterloo South, Main Lead, Raglan, and Chute.—4.30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

From Stockyard Hill, Nerring, and Lake Goldsmith.—4.30 p.m.

From Eurambeen and Shirley.—4.30 p.m.

From England.—Weekly.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Two deliveries by postman daily.

Office is open daily for transaction of postal and telegraph business, sale of stamps and postal notes from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m., and from 7 p.m. till 8 p.m.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

From 9 a.m. till 5 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SAVINGS BANK.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, 10 to 12 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. for receiving deposits only.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS. From 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.

OLD AGE PENSION PAYMENTS. 9 a.m. till 3 p.m.

G. M. CREAGH, Postmistress.

The Man Who Doesn't Advertise

Breathes there a man with soul so dead
That to himself he hath not said,
"My trade of late is getting bad,
I'll try another ten-inch ad."
If such there be, go mark him well,
For him no bank account shall swell—
No angel watch the golden stair
To welcome home a millionaire.

To such a man the noisy din
Of traffic may not enter in,
For bargain hunters by the score
Shall pass nor heed his dingy door;
For tho' his sign is on the wall
And on some barnyard gate a scrawl,
No people who have cash and sense,
Go prancing around to read the fence.

The man who never asks for trade
By local line or ad. displayed
Gates more for rest than worldly gain
And patronage but gives him pain;
Tread lightly, friends, let no rude sound
Disturb his solitude profound.
Here let him live in calm repose
Unsought except by men he owes.

And when he dies, go plant him deep
That naught may break his dreamless sleep,
Where no rude clamor may dispel
The quiet that he loved so well,
And that the world may know its loss
Place on his grave a wreath of moss
And on the stone above, "Here lies
A chump who wouldn't advertise."

—Mortimer Crane Brown.

"KEATING'S POWDER" destroys BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES, and all other insects, whilst quite harmless to domestic animals. In exterminating Beetles the success of this powder is extraordinary. It is perfectly clean in application. See the article you purchase is "KEATINGS," *i.e.*, with the signature THOMAS KEATING on each tin, as imitations are noxious and ineffectual. Sold in Tins, 6d and 1s. each, by all chemists.

If you dry to do peesnis mitowt advertising, you will find yourself already like a boy drying to shlide a hill down mitowt shnow. Besides dere ish dese differences: ven you don't got some shnow you gant make 'em; but you can sometimes shenerally always make der advertising come right avay quick off, all der year round, mit some money.

—Joseph.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste; it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery, and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere.

TAKE

BEECHAM'S

PILLS

To avoid Indigestion

That distressed feeling is simply a poorly-working stomach—it needs a little help—but no matter how bad it may be, a dose of BEECHAM'S PILLS will SPEEDILY GIVE RELIEF. Take BEECHAM'S PILLS for a few days and the trouble will disappear.

To Cure Sick Headache

Sick headache means an overtaxed stomach and a derangement of the digestive organs. BEECHAM'S PILLS have proved themselves a boon for removing that distressed feeling and discomfort. A dose will remove the immediate cause, and if repeated for a few days will enable your system to work normally.

Sold Everywhere in Boxes,

Price 1s. 1½d. (56 Pills) and 2s. 9d. (168 Pills.)

P. J. O'SULLIVAN,

SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER

SNAKE VALLEY.

A large Assortment of Saddlery and Harness Requisites kept in stock.

All kinds of Harness bought, sold, or exchanged.

Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Also Cash Buyer of Hides, Horse-hair, Beeswax, Furred Skins, &c., &c.

NOTICE.

We have resolved to REDUCE the SUBSCRIPTION to "THE RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE" (with which is published a 14-column supplement containing well-selected reading matter) to 3s per quarter, an act of which the concession will be taken advantage of.

The Advertising Rates have also been considerably reduced, and advertisers will find it to their benefit to avail themselves of the columns of "The Riponshire Advocate," which is the only newspaper that is printed and published within the boundaries of the Shire. As the advocate of the interests and for the welfare of this district, it has a claim for a considerable amount of support, and has a greater scope for extended usefulness than any other journal or journals within a given radius of Beaufort.

Job Printing, plain and ornamental, of every description, is executed with neatness, accuracy and despatch, and on the most reasonable terms.

We take this opportunity of thanking our patrons for past favors, and while respectfully soliciting a renewal of support, desire to state that increased attention will be given to all matters of local and general interest. As a record of news we will always endeavour to make our columns as comprehensive as possible. In all departments, in fact, we will aim at improvement, and, therefore, confidently appeal to the public for increased support.

ARTHUR PARKER,
Proprietor

Business man—"You remember that 'ad.' I had in your paper, and took out two months ago? Well, I want to have it put back again.' Editor—"Why, I thought you said no one noticed it while it was in." Business man (humbly)—"They didn't seem to until I took it out." The mere fact of your advertising lets people know you are still in business; also that your business is sufficiently important to stand advertising. If you are in business you cannot afford to do without advertising, as it is too much of an admission to the world at large.—Extract from an interview with a man who has profited by newspaper advertising.

The greatest aid you can give your newspaper is your job printing; if you do not feel able to run an advertisement, surely you can afford to give the newspaper your cards, dodgers, billheads, letter-heads, envelopes, and all business printing to execute. The newspaper man needs it, and it helps him to pay his printers for setting up the thousand and one free notices he gives you and your town; but don't give it to the printer or job printing office that can give you no such return, and is spending neither time, money, nor brains in helping you to build up your town. The time may come when a newspaper can live simply upon the revenue derived from advertising and subscriptions, but no ordinary newspaper in any ordinary town can exist without the auxiliary support derived from job printing. Therefore, if you want a *good* newspaper—one that can still further help you and your town—give it your job printing.

J. B. COCHRAN, NEWS AGENT, BOOKSELLER, and STATIONER, begs to announce to the inhabitants of BEAUFORT and district that he is Sole Agent for the *Argus, Age, Herald, Star, Courier*, Melbourne *Punch*, Sydney *Bulletin, Ripon shire Advocate, Leader, Weekly Times, Australasian, Australian Journal, Sportsman*, and all other Periodicals. All School Requisites kept in stock. Advertisements received for all the above-named papers. While thanking his numerous customers for past favors, he trusts, by strict attention to the delivery of all papers, to merit a fair share of their support. Advertisements received for all Melbourne and Ballarat papers. By sending through local agent advertisers save postage. Note the address—Next door to Wotherspoon & Co.

STEVENSON BROS.,

BUILDERS

AND

CONTRACTORS,

HAVELOCK STREET,

BEAUFORT.

Estimates submitted for all work in building line.

JOHN HUMPHREYS

COMMISSION & INSURANCE AGENT

ACCOUNTANT ETC.,

Neill Street, Beaufort.

RENTS and Debts Collected. Agent for the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

Agency Business of all kinds attended to.

YOU CAN AFFORD IT.

Very few are too poor now-a-days to take their country paper, and it is false economy to try and get along without it. Hardly a week passes that something or other does not appear in its columns that will be of financial benefit to the subscriber, and by the end of the year he had made or saved or won twenty times the subscription paid for it. The city papers don't take the place of the country ones, though some people appear to think they do. The city papers are all right in their way, but they do not give you that in which you are most interested—your country news. You cannot learn from them when and where your country meetings are to be held, who are dying or who are marrying, who are moving in or who are moving out, court proceedings, who wants to buy or sell farm or land produce, in fact hundreds of things of which it might be of particular importance for you to know. If you can afford to take only one paper, by all means take the one that is published in the country or district where you live. It will cost you less, and thereby you will be assisting yourself and keeping the money in the district.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, in writing, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.

2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their newspapers, the publisher may continue to send them until arrears are paid.

3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the post-office to which they are directed, they are held responsible until they settle their bills, and ordered the newspapers to be discontinued.

4. If subscribers move to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to the former direction, the subscribers are responsible.

5. The court has decided that is refusing to take periodicals from the post-office or leaving them uncalled for, "*prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud."

6. Any person who receives a newspaper and makes use of it, whether he has ordered it or not, is held in law to be a subscriber.

HINTS TO FRIENDLY READERS

You want to see the local paper a successful institution.

Talk about it wherever you go

Mention it to the tradespeople with whom you do business.

If they don't advertise in it, try and induce them to do so.

If you are induced to buy anything from what you have read in its advertising columns mention the fact to the tradesman.

Don't lend your paper to any person who can afford to become a subscriber but is too mean to support local enterprise.

A country paper kindly supplies this beautiful simile:—"You might as well try to shampoo an elephant with a thimbleful of soapsuds as attempt to do business and ignore advertising."

FLORILINE.—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Florline," being composed in parts of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot 33 Farringdon Road, London, England.

To our Readers and Patrons.

THE PROSPERITY OF A DISTRICT DEPENDS chiefly upon the support and encouragement that is given by its population to local enterprise and industry. Enterprise is to a member less extent speculative, but each, whilst aiming at the success of the venture, must obtain returns to the extent that support is necessary to achieve certain results.

Support Local Industry and Local Enterprise.

The law of exchange was never satisfactory in its working; thus it was that the custom of buying and selling, using a standard currency was introduced. One form of that currency known as "paper money," and of paper money there is more than one kind. All kinds are useful, but not every kind retains its original value. The "paper" money most valuable to a newspaper proprietor is that which is sent him by

"*Subscribers and Advertisers*"

and he will do his utmost to entitle him to a good share of it.

"The Riponshire Advocate"

is the Advertising Medium for all Contracts, Meet, and notifications of the Shire of Ripon and is the

ONLY NEWSPAPER

That is

Printed and Published within the boundaries of the Shire,

And as the advocate of the interests and for the welfare of this district it has a claim for a considerably greater amount of support, and has a greater scope for extended usefulness than any other journal or journals within a radius of the Shire Offices.

The Circulation

of the

Riponshire Advocate

Is

Steadily Increasing,

And the Proprietor, recognising the increased support in this direction, will use his utmost endeavors to merit and sustain the patronage accorded him by giving the Latest possible Local and General News, and the most interesting and instructive information.

"The Advocate,"

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING,

CIRCULATES in the following districts:—Beaufort, Stockyard Hill, Lake Goldsmith, Sailor's Gully, Main Lead, Raglan, Chute, Waterloo, Eurambeen, Buangor, Middle Creek, Shirley, Trawalla, Skipton, and Carngham.

With every issue of the Paper is given

A FOURTEEN-COLUMN

SUPPLEMENT,

Containing an

Interesting Serial Tale,
Amusing Anecdotes,
Pastoral News,
Poultry Farming
Agricultural Intelligence,
Recipes,
Gardening Items,
Etc., Etc., Etc.

Business Men, Read

It was Benjamin Franklin who wrote—

"What steam is to machinery, advertising is to business."

And another writer has said that—

"He who in his "biz" would rise,
Must either 'bust' or advertise."

And advertisers cannot do better than make the *Riponshire Advocate* the medium for their announcements.

Arthur Parker,

Printer and Publisher,

LAWRENCE STREET, BEAUFORT.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

BALL TICKETS & PROGRAMMES,
ADDRESS & BUSINESS CARDS.
MINING SCRIP, REPORTS, &c.,
PAMPHLETS, CIRCULARS,
BILLHEADS, POSTERS,
DELIVERY BOOKS
DRAPERS' HANDBILLS,
CATALOGUES, MOURNING CARDS,
SOIREE & DINNER TICKETS,
&c., &c.,

PRINTED in FIRST CLASS STYLE

AT MELBOURNE PRICES.

Office:—Lawrence Street, Beaufort.

Plain & Ornamental Printing

Of Every description executed at the

"RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE"

OFFICE.

BOOKBINDING

ON REASONABLE TERMS

MINING SCRIP, CALL RECIPT DELIVERY BOOKS, &c.

Prepared on the shortest

LADIES' WINTER UNDERCLOTHING.

This month we are making a Grand Show of Ladies' Winter Underclothing, of Reliable Quality.

COUGLE'S.

No Desirable Style Is Missing From our Well-Assorted Stock.

COUGLE'S.

Ladies' Natural Wool Combinations, long or short sleeves. Splendid value.

Ladies' Woven Undervests, long or short sleeves. Price, 4s 3d, 5s 11d.

Ladies' Ribbed Wool Vests (long or short sleeves), pink, natural, cream. Price, 1s, 1s 3d, 1s 6d, 1s 9d, 1s 11d, 2s 6d, 3s 6d.

Ladies' Flannelette Nightdresses, pink, white, trimmed lace. Price, 2s 11d, 3s 11d, 4s 9d, 5s 9d.

We hold an extensive Stock of Children's Coats, Pellisses, Frocks, &c.; also everything necessary in Underwear.

G. H. COUGLE,

The People's Draper,

HAVELOCK STREET,

BEAUFORT.

COMMERCIAL.

BALLARAT LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Tuesday.

Fat Cattle—268 head was the supply penned for to-day's sale, about one-third consisting of quality ranging from good to prime, balance principally comprising middling descriptions; a few inferior. There was an average attendance of the trade, and for best pens competition was fairly animated, last week's highest rates being fully maintained, whilst for other descriptions, very little, if any, alteration can be quoted. Quotations:—Prime pens bullocks, £12 to £13 17s 6d; good, £10 to £11; useful, £9 10s to £9 10s; prime cows, £8 to £9; good, £6 to £7. Calves—15 forward, which met a brisk demand for quality, selling to £5 10s. Sheep—3178 came to hand for to-day's sale, rather more than one-third consisting of quality ranging from good to prime, including two trucks of extra heavy-weights, remainder being made up of middling and useful descriptions. There was a good attendance of buyers, and for quality competition was again brisk at prices fully equal to last week's highest rates, whilst other sorts, owing to the wet weather, did not appear to advantage; for such prices were slightly easier. Quotations:—Prime crossbred wethers, 21s to 23s; extra, 25s to 28s 9d; good, 19s to 20s; useful, 17s to 18s; prime crossbred ewes, 19s to 20s; good, 17s to 18s; prime merino wethers, 18s to 19s; good, 16s to 17s; useful, 14s to 15s. Lambs—595 to hand. Those up to trade requirements met a ready demand at late rates; others somewhat lower. Prime, 16s to 18s; extra, 20s to 22s 9d; good, 14s to 15s; useful, 12s to 13s 9d.

The following district sales are reported:—By Messrs Macleod and Booth.—261 sheep for executors late Mr Alex. Bain, Stockyard Hill, comeback wethers 20s 7d to 23s, averaging 21s 7d, two-tooth wethers 19s 1d to 24s, averaging 19s 7d, comeback ewes 18s 9d to 21s 1d, averaging 20s, two-tooth ewes 18s 6d to 19s 3d, averaging 18s 9d, merino wethers 18s 8d, topping the market, averaging 18s 10d.

BALLARAT PRODUCE MARKET.

Thursday.

Wheat, prime milling, 2s 10d to 2s 11d. Oats, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; prime Algerian, 1s 3d. Peas, 2s 6d. Barley, malting, 3s; good, 3s 4d; Cape, 2s. Potatoes, 30s to 37s 6d; Reds and old pink-eyes, 30s to 37s 6d; New Zealand pink eyes, 10s to 15s; Hay, prime chaffing, 22s 6d to 25s; medium, 15s to 20s; manger, 30s to 32s 6d. Straw, 15s to 20s. Bran, 7½d to 8d. Pollard, 8d to 8½d. Flour, roller, 1.7 5s to 1.7 7s 6d. Dairy butter, 7d; factory prints, 10½d; lump, 9d to 10d; separator, 8d to 9d. Eggs, 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Honey, 3d to 4d. Bacon sides, 9½d. Cheese, 4½d to 5d.

MELBOURNE PRODUCE MARKET.

Thursday.

Wheat, 2s 6d to 3s. Oats—Prime milling, 1s 3d; feed, 1s to 1s 2d; stout white, 1s 10d to 2s. Hay—Manger, £3 to £3 10s; chaffing, £2. Chaff—Prime, £2 5s; good, 35s; inferior, 25s. Bran, 8d. Pollard, 8d. Barley—Malting, from 3s; medium, 2s 6d; thin English, to 2s. Cape, 1s 6d to 1s 11d. Straw, £1 10s for Victorian, and £2 2s 6d for Tasmanian. Potatoes—Prime, 40s to 45s; inferior, 25s. Onions, to 35s. Peas, 2s 4d. Flour, £7 5s.

DULL WET WEATHER in no way interferes with the success of

RICHARDS & CO'S.

NEW INSTANTANEOUS PROCESS.

The Newest Styles in Photography.

The Art Folio, The Wallet Photograph, Artist Proofs.

BRIDAL PORTRAITS.—Our Studio has become famous for successful Bridal Portraits. Bridal Veils, Wreaths, and Bouquets kept the studio.

ENLARGED PHOTOS from any Old or Faded copy, in the newest solid art wood frame, 20s. each.

RICHARDS & CO.,

PHOTO ARTISTS,

23 STURT STREET, BALLARAT.

Mr J. W. HARRIS,

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST, REGISTERED DENTIST, AND DRUGGIST,

HAVELOCK STREET, BEAUFORT.

In this established profession the first attention is devoted to the DISPENSING DEPARTMENT.

Every care is ensured in the art and preparation of prescriptions, &c. The latest appliances are used in the Laboratory in Medical Tinctures and British Pharmacopœia Preparations, the Purest Chemicals and Drugs being used. Medicines at Ballarat Prices, sent to all parts of the State by post, rail, coach, &c., and all letters receive prompt and careful attention.

HARRIS'S ANÆMIA MIXTURE, an excellent and invaluable remedy.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN HERBS.

Homeopathic Medicines. Horse and Cattle Medicines.

Mr J. W. HARRIS, R.D.S.,

Surgical & Mechanical Dentist,

HAVELOCK-STREET, BEAUFORT.

May be consulted DAILY from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Teeth fitted accurately in vulcanite or gold at lowest prices.

PAINLESS DENTISTRY.—Teeth extracted painlessly with cocaine ether, chloride of ethyl, laughing gas, &

☞NOTE THE ADDRESS—

HAVELOCK-STREET

(Next Mechanics' Institute),

BEAUFORT

Mr. SAMUEL YOUNG,

Barrister and Solicitor,

Proctor and Conveyancer,

BEAUFORT.

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of the State of Victoria for taking Affidavits.

TRUST and other MONIES TO LEND on freehold and other securities.

A CARD.

CLEGG & MILLER,

ARCHITECTS,

LYDIARD STREET, BALLARAT.

Mr. Miller visits Beaufort periodically. Appointments made by letter.

DENTISTRY.

Mr. A. L. GIBBS, and Mr. W. A. J. BRANSTON,

Surgical and Mechanical Dentists,

73 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE.

Desire to notify the residents of Beaufort and surrounding districts that Mr. BRANSTON may be consulted at BEAUFORT on the first Thursday of each month.

Teeth extracted painlessly.

All Artificial Teeth made on latest approved English and American principles.

Consultation Room—GOLDEN AGE HOTEL. Hours—12.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

"RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE."

Notice to Advertisers.

OWING to the inconvenience caused by Advertisements being received after the appointed time, we beg to notify that unless ALTERATIONS TO STANDING ADVERTISEMENTS reach us by WEDNESDAY Morning, such alterations will not be made till the following issue.

In future this rule will be strictly enforced, in fairness to our employees.

Correspondents are also requested to send reports by Thursday.

A. PARKER, Proprietor.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

SUNDAY, 19TH JUNE, 1904.

Presbyterian Church.—Beaufort, 11 a.m.; Raglan, 3 p.m.; Chute, 7 p.m.—Mr A. McLeod. Lexton, 11 a.m.; Waterloo, 3 p.m.; Beaufort, 7 p.m.—Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A. Waterloo, 7 p.m.—Mr S. Collins.

Methodist Church.—Beaufort, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Raglan, 3 p.m.—Rev. R. Yeo. Main Lead, 3 p.m.; Raglan, 7 p.m.—Mr Brown. Chute, 3 p.m.—Mr Cunnington.

A.N.A.,

BEAUFORT BRANCH,

Meets at 8 p.m. on TUESDAY next, at the SOCIETIES' HALL.

Item on Syllabus.—Paper, Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A.

All meetings open to the public.

W. T. HILL, Secretary.

THE Riponshire Advocate

Published every Saturday Morning.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1904.

THE defeat of the attempt to include domestic servants in the Federal Arbitration Act was what was expected, the sense of the House of Representatives seeing nothing in the proposal but another wild and whirling piece of legislation. It is really not too much to expect that some of the arbitration enthusiasts will seek to have the birds of the air and the beasts of the field included in their pet measure. In the case of the domestic servants, as with the rural industries, the act would only operate in the event of a dispute extending beyond one State, and when questioned as to the improbability of this occurring, Mr. Spence (N.S.W.) put his foot into it when he told the House they could easily work one up. No doubt they could, and if this was the design lurking behind the act in regard to the farming and rural industries, these communities will be doubly thankful that this proposition was deposited in the parliamentary rubbish heap. It is quite nice and elegant to talk about the act only applying in the case of trouble reaching from one State to another, but it is a horse of another color when a suggestion is advanced that once a class comes within the operation of the act a dispute could be easily worked up. To come and legislate in the kitchen is cutting things pretty fine, and it is doubtful if those who supported this proposal were aware to anything approaching a full extent of what its effect would be. Mr. Spence's bright idea to work up a domestic revolution in the Commonwealth is truly delightful and must appeal with irresistible force to the heads of families and housewives where servants are employed. There certainly seems a good deal of evidence to support the fact that an ulterior motive was entertained, for unless a domestic dispute extended beyond one State the act would remain inoperative, and there is no sense in wasting the time of Parliament in passing legislation that is not going to be used. A good deal of light is now thrown on the specious arguments in favor of applying the act to the farm laborer and rural employé, and the attempts of the Government look like a touting for support from electors in the classes mentioned. Of course it was necessary for the Government to take up the Arbitration Act, but it is not necessary that efforts should be made to bring in sections whose spheres are generally recognised to be outside the limits of legislation of this description. There are issues of greater national import awaiting discussion, and the sooner they are dealt with the better.

Local and General News.

Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, for Coughs and Colds never fails. 1s. 6d.

We are pleased to hear that Mr J. A. Harris, of Beaufort, succeeded in carrying off the event for a lady's bracelet, valued at £5, at the Burrumbeet sparrow match on Thursday, grassing 11 birds out of 12. Mr Harris also divided, with two others, two half-sovereign sweepstakes in pigeon matches. He shot five birds in succession in each match, the first miss counting out. He was shooting on his sister's (Mrs Cavanagh's) nomination.

Old playgoers will regret to hear of the death of Mr John Matlock, which took place at his residence, South Melbourne, on Wednesday. Mr Matlock was a bass singer of considerable merit, and was a particularly well-known figure on the concert stage. It was with the Christy Minstrel circles of past days that he was more closely identified, and was very popular as a soloist in that class of performance. Mr Matlock was 57 years of age.

Messrs Dixon Bros. (through their auctioneer, Mr W. H. Halpin) held their monthly stock sale at Beaufort on Thursday. There was only a small yarding. Fair prices were offered for cattle by Ballarat buyers, but as reserves were too high, no sales were effected. A pen of store sheep realized from 12s 1d to 15s. The next sale takes place on Thursday, 21st July.

The usual committee meeting of the Raglan branch A.M.A. was held on Monday night. Present—Messrs W. G. Davis (president, in the chair), C. Sutherland, W. D. Smith, E. Cordy, J. Sergeant, W. Millar, P. Padfield, A. McNish, and A. Stevenson (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was received from general secretary, coal-miners, declaring strike off, and thanking branch for support, and making a further appeal for funds to help miners leave the district.—Resolved that £2 2s be voted. From A. A. Wilson, forwarding cheque for £1 1s, being refund of branch's donation to Murtell appeal case.—Received. From Eye and Ear Hospital, soliciting usual donation.—Referred to annual general meeting. The following accounts were passed for payment:—Previous fortnight—S. Morris, 10; J. Pope, 16s 8d; W. G. Davis, £3 3s 9d; secretary, £1. Last fortnight—W. Sharpe, 10; J. Pope, £2; W. Crocker, £1 16s 8d; W. D. Smith, £3 4d; secretary, £1.

Bendigo mining board recently passed a resolution requesting the Minister of Mines to submit all applications for suspension of the labour covenants to the board for consideration before dealing with them. The Minister replies that as he alone is responsible for the proper administration of the department, he cannot conform to the resolution.

Bonnington's Irish Moss

Use in Cough

for Stubborn Colds and Children's Hacking Coughs. ONE BOTTLE TRIES.

For Children's Hacking Cough at Night, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

The rainfall at Beaufort for the week ending yesterday at 9 a.m. amounted to 59 points.

Rifle clubs will this year receive from the Defence Department 2s 6d for every member who qualifies by shooting his musketry returns, and next year the amount will be doubled.

The Board of Land and Works invite tenders up to noon of Wednesday, 29th inst., for the right to graze from 1st July, 1904, to 30th June, 1905, on 16 acres, being the water reserve along the creek between allotments 39A, 39A, and 39B, parish of Trawalla, recently licensed to Arthur West.

Three Indian hawkers, named Sundah Singh, Sohan Singh, and Yarra Singh, were arrested at Beaufort on Thursday by Senior-constable Nicholson and Constable Deeley on charges of drunkenness and offensive behaviour. They were brought before Mr J. R. Wotherspoon, J.P., yesterday, and were each fined £1 on the second charge; the first charge being dismissed.

At St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Ararat, on Thursday morning (says the "Advertiser,") the solemn office for the dead, followed by Requiem High Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Very Rev. R. Meade, was celebrated. The ceremonials were of a most impressive character, and clergymen from all parts of the district were present to take part in them. The Rev. J. O'Brien, of Horsham, was the celebrant at Mass, assisted by the Rev. G. Doyle, of St. Arnaud, as deacon, and the Rev. D. Howell, of Inglewood, as sub-deacon. The Rev. Father Marshall, of Maryborough, was the Master of Ceremonies, whilst the Very Rev. M. Shanahan, of Hamilton, presided. The Revs. T. P. Walsh, of Stawell, and R. Riordan, of Hamilton, chanted the office, whilst the clergy comprised the choir. The clergymen present were:—Rev. M. Shanahan, Hamilton; Rev. M. Meade, Horsham; Rev. G. Doyle, St. Arnaud; Very Rev. T. Guilfoyle and Rev. W. Close, Ballarat; Rev. T. P. Lynch, Ararat; Rev. P. Kennelly, Clunes; Rev. D. Foley, Creswick; Rev. M. Lynch, Horsham; Rev. D. Howell, Inglewood; Rev. J. O'Brien, Horsham; Rev. M. Marshall, Maryborough; Rev. Shearman, C.S.S.R.; Rev. J. H. O'Connell, Carlton; Rev. M. Jones, Nhill; Rev. T. McCarthy, Colac; Rev. P. Lennan, Koroit; and Rev. H. O'Kane, Smythesdale.

In connection with the departure from the district of the Very Rev. Father O'Hare, to enter on his enlarged sphere of duties at Ararat, there was a representative gathering of gentlemen from the town and district at Inglewood last Wednesday evening, the Mayor (Cr. Jennings) presiding, writes the "Dunolly Express." The object of the meeting was to decide as to what steps should be taken to mark the appreciation of the town and district of Father O'Hare's manifold services in many directions. The Mayor and other speakers alluded in cordials terms to Father O'Hare's high qualities, to his work and liberality, to his services for religion, charity, etc. It was unanimously agreed, in order that the recognition might be one of a practical nature, that it take the form of a purse of sovereigns. A committee, representative of both town and country, with the Mayor as chairman, and Messrs F. E. Ebran and A. Currie as secretaries, was appointed to carry out the wish of the meeting. While there will be no personal appeal, circulars will be issued immediately, bringing the movement under notice of the public throughout the district. It was also decided to communicate with representative gentlemen in the various centres throughout the large district which has come within the sphere of the rev. gentleman's operations, acquainting them with what has been done at Inglewood, and suggesting that similar, or some action might be taken by them with a view of making the movement a unanimous one throughout the whole of the district. Judging by the interest evinced, there is every reason to anticipate there will be a splendid response to the circular to be issued, and that the movement will eventuate in one of the most successful of the kind yet initiated in the district.

One of the most awful disasters of recent times occurred on Wednesday at New York. An excursion steamer, laden with nearly 2,000 passengers, took fire while proceeding up the East River. She burned fiercely, and before she could be beached hundreds of persons had been burned to death, while hundreds of others who jumped into the water were unable to make the shore, and perished.

Except for a statement made by Mr Bent, the Premier, during the election campaign, no indication has been given of the view taken by the Government of the Scripture referendum vote. Before the election Mr Bent expressed the opinion that, as far as he was concerned individually, he thought the answers to the first question would settle the matter one way or the other. Since the result of the referendum became known, Mr Bent has been silent. He excuses himself by saying that he has not had time to consider the final figures. He admitted that he had noticed there was a large majority in favour of the Education Act remaining as at present. Asked whether he could indicate what view the Government would take of the result, he said he "really didn't know." He added that "there was plenty of time in which to deal with the matter."

It appears that the Russians fell into a skilfully prepared trap in the recent disaster near Port Adams. The Russians pursued the Japanese, who pretended to retreat, but had troops in reserve. They executed a flanking movement and compelled the Russians to retire on Kinchau, with a loss of 800 killed and wounded.

At Dunkeld a simple means is being used to scare foxes away from the lambs. A small bell is attached to the necks of a few of the old sheep, to which the flock readily become accustomed. When a fox appears in their midst, the sheep usually commence running, with the result that the bells are set ringing vigorously, and the fox becoming scared, beats a hasty retreat.

An Anti-Chinese and Asiatic League has been established in Sydney with the object of conducting a crusade for the rooting out of Chinese and other Asiatics in the Commonwealth, for the regulation of those living here, and to secure the repeal of legislation which permitted them to come to Australia at all.

For Bronchial Coughs take Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

For Chronic Chest Complaints, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

Admiral Bridges and Mr J. R. Wotherspoon, J.s.P., presided at the Beaufort Police Court on Tuesday. Jas. McKeich v. Chas. Broadbent.—Goods sold and delivered, 14s 6d. Order for the amount, with 5s costs. Another case was settled out of court. Senior-constable Nicholson v. Wm. Fitzpatrick.—Charged with not having his child vaccinated. The senior-constable asked for an adjournment of the case until the 28th inst., as the child had since been vaccinated, and to see if the vaccination proved successful. The case was adjourned, and several other similar cases were struck out, the children having been vaccinated successfully.

The Rev. J. S. Drummond, of Carngham, on Tuesday tendered his resignation of the pastorate of the Presbytery, prior to taking an extended trip to the home country. The Rev. G. S. Moorhead expressed very deep regret at the step taken by Mr Drummond, as he had endeared himself lately for him, and was delighted with the congregations at Carngham and Linton. The Rev. Dr. Gray spoke highly of Mr Drummond's ministry of 20 years, and Mr John Clark, representative elder for the parish, also expressed regret at the thought of losing their minister. The Rev. F. McQueen was appointed to preach at Carngham on Sabbath first, and cite the congregations to appear for their interests by commissioners before a meeting of the Presbytery to be held on the 28th June.—"Star."

CLARKE'S 841 B PILLS are warranted to cure in either sex, all acquired or constitutional Discharges from the Urinary Organs, Gravel and Pains in the Back. Free from Mercury. Established upwards of 30 years. Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the world. Proprietors, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England.

The installation of the officers of the Ancient Order of Druids, Beaufort, was celebrated by a social in the Societies' Hall on Wednesday evening, and proved a very enjoyable affair. There were 52 couples present, and dancing was kept up until 11.30 p.m., when the members of the order handed round a very sumptuous repast; the caterer being Mr H. Flowers, who gave every satisfaction. Mr H. M. Stuart carried out the duties of Master of Ceremonies in a very efficient manner. Jackson's String Band supplied excellent music. During the evening songs were nicely rendered and much appreciated, as follow:—"Doreen," Mr G. W. Jones; "Lu-lu," Miss Thomas, who sang "Ebenezer," in response to an encore; "There'll be a hot time in the old town to-night," Mr H. Stuart, junr., who also sang, as an encore, "A terrible lot to do to-day"; "Honey, you are my lady love," Miss Thomas. The company dispersed at about 1 a.m., being highly pleased with the night's enjoyment. The names of the officers were published in a recent issue.

The Premier promises that when the Closer Settlement Bill is before the Cabinet consideration will be given to the question of making provisions on estates purchased for closer settlement for farm laborers' lots. Mr Bent says he has two reports relating in some way to the subject, one from Dr. Cherry, and one from another gentleman. It would be a good thing, Mr Bent says, if a few well-trained laborers were always handy to closer settlement allotments. They would, he thinks, get employment during several months of the year from the small farmers on the blocks, and when not so employed could improve their own little holdings. Until the matter has been threshed out, Mr Bent is not prepared to discuss it in detail, but it is understood that the idea he has in mind is to make available small lots on very easy terms for farm laborers, and to make their position more secure on the land as they improved their holdings and gave proof of their industry.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY not only cures colds and influenza, but counteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. It always cures and cures quickly. Sold by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

A committee meeting of the Beaufort Mechanics' Institute was held in the room on Tuesday evening. Present—Messrs S. Young (president), in the chair, C. J. C. Baker, H. H. Menzies, J. Jackson, M. J. N. Breen (secretary), and D. F. Troy, and Dr. Eadie. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The secretary stated that the balance in the bank was £30 6s 4d. Correspondence.—From Mrs Tompkins, thanking committee for letter of condolence, and for the appointment of her daughter to the position of librarian.—Received. From T. R. Oddie, forwarding amount of £1 5s for subscription, and asking that his name be withdawn from the subscribers' list when his subscription ran out.—Received. The following accounts were passed for payment:—G. Topper, £3; D. Troy & Son, 11s 6d; A. Parker, 4s 6d; librarian, £3 6s 8d. The secretary stated that Mrs Eadie had gone to a lot of trouble in making a wreath for the committee, and he would move that a vote of thanks be passed to her. Seconded by Mr Menzies, and carried. Subsequently Dr. Eadie attended, and being informed of the vote of thanks, and said that it had been a labor of love. The president said that the late librarian had been one of the founders of the institute, and he thought the committee should obtain an enlarged photo. of him and hang it up in the library. He would move to that effect. Seconded by Dr. Eadie, and carried. It was decided to obtain £5 worth of new books, and the president, secretary, and Mr Menzies were appointed a book committee. The secretary moved, and Mr Menzies seconded, that the Rev. R. Yeo be appointed an hon. member. Carried. A vacancy having occurred on the committee, Mr H. Schofield was appointed to fill the position. The secretary moved that the matter of arranging a series of socials be left in the hands of the president and Messrs Troy and Menzies.

It was found at the last Commonwealth elections that the names of a number of persons who wished to vote were not on the rolls. In view of the developments which may occur in federal politics, it would be advisable for all such persons to take immediate steps to secure enrolment. This may be done by filling in what is known as "Form B," and posting it to the divisional returning officer of the electorate in which the voter resides. These forms are understood to be obtainable at all post-offices, and the divisional returning officer is, in all cases except that of Melbourne, the postmaster of the principal city or town in the electorates. The forms referred to may also be obtained at the rooms of the Victorian Employers' Federation, 285 Collins-street, where the rolls for the metropolitan area can be inspected as well.

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To Cure a Cough or Cold. ONCE TRIED, ALWAYS USED.

Beaufort United Common.

The managers of the above Common met at the secretary's office on 14th inst. Present—Messrs Humphreys, Flynn, and Browne (secretary.)

REPORTS.

From the Secretary, reporting financially as follows:—Balance in bank, £40 10s 2d; cash in hand, £1 19s; making a total credit of £42 9s 2d; fees received to date for current half-year, £31 13s; unpaid fees due on stock registered, £12 10s; making the total assessment to date, £44 3s. The arrears for the half-year ended 31st Jany. last now stand at £2 2s; making total arrears £14 12s; herdsman's percentage, £4 12s 6d.

From the herdsman, reporting that 600 sheep and 22 head of cattle passed through the common since last meeting. He had again laid toxa on the common, the result being very satisfactory. He begged to recommend that the managers take action to have block 73B parish of Trawalla, proclaimed a permanent reserve, and also exempted from occupation under miners' rights, otherwise in time access to the dam thereon may be seriously interfered with.

The reports were received, and it was resolved that immediate action be taken to protect the dam and approaches thereto as recommended by the herdsman.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From D. S. Oman, M.L.A., forwarding correspondence received from the Surveyor-General, re Beaufort Common, intimating that the Surveyor-General will minute all the papers in accordance with Mr Taverner's promise, and submit them to the Minister of Lands (Mr Murray), as soon as possible; also under a later date the Surveyor-General intimated that the promise made by Mr Taverner, that no further reduction of the common area would be made for five years, has been noted on all the correspondence; also from the Secretary for Lands, re 40 acres on the common, parish of Eurambeen, and intimating that the applications for the land in question cannot be allowed to proceed, as the area was not made available for selection with the other land in the vicinity.

The correspondence was received, and the secretary was instructed to write to Mr Oman, thanking him for his attention to the above matters.

The following accounts were passed for payment:—Herdsman, £4 12s 6d; rabbit extermination, £3; Secretary, £2

Correspondence.

We do not in any way identify ourselves with the opinions expressed by our correspondents. It is desired that letters to the editor shall be accompanied by the real name and address of the writer, not for absolute publication, but as a *bona fide* guarantee.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I would ask a small space in your columns to allow of a little light being thrown on the Ripon shire Council's action with regard to Lake Goldsmith. In the first place, I understand that it was decided last year not to vote any more money for the purpose of destroying the rabbits on the shores of the lake, but that those ratepayers benefiting by the use of the fore-shores be asked to cope with the pest; yet, in the face of that decision, the council are still employing men to clear the lake of the vermin. What I would like to know is, who takes the responsibility of having the work done this year? and by whom are the men appointed, as I failed to see any mention of the matter in your lengthy reports of the council's meetings? This is a matter that should be thoroughly ventilated before the ensuing August. Thanking you in anticipation,—I am, yours, etc.,

A WEST RIDING RATEPAYER.

The Referendum.

What are virtually the final results in connection with the referendum on the question of Scripture lessons in State schools were received on Wednesday. There are a few small returns to come to hand from places in the bush, where there is only a fortnightly mail service, but they can be of little value. The total votes recorded against any alteration of the secular character of the Education Act amount to 89,047, while 62,868 are in favor of alteration. The total electors who favor the introduction of Scripture lessons where parents are agreeable, number 78,986, while 69,875 oppose the proposal; for the introduction of hymns and prayers, 79,143 votes are recorded, while 69,696 were cast against them.

HAMPDEN VOTES.

The following were the votes recorded in connection with the Scripture referendum in the various divisions of the Hampden electorate:—

	Question 1.		Question 2.		Question 3.	
	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.
Beaufort ...	507	308	428	361	427	359
Camperdown	664	438	554	522	564	514
Mortlake ...	267	167	201	218	207	215
Wickliffe ...	149	61	85	122	81	124
Totals ...	1587	974	1268	1223	1279	1209

The informal ballot-papers totalled 37.

The Anglican Bishop of Riverina has been delivering himself to some pointed remarks in regard to the declining birth-rate. Unless public opinion underwent a complete and rapid change, he said, and assumed a higher and healthier tone, unless motherhood was honored and highly esteemed, unless children were once more hailed as harbingers of joy and their careful rearing regarded as the best service parents could render the State, then they must be prepared, in God's providential dealing with nations, to make way for some people more fitted than themselves to develop the vast resources of this fair land.

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The Universal Remedy for Colds, Bronchitis and Influenza. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Mining News.

BARTON QUARTZ CO., BEAUFORT.

The half-yearly meeting of the above company was held at the Mechanics' Institute, Beaufort, on Thursday afternoon; Mr D. F. Troy (chairman of directors), in the chair, and eight shareholders present.

The legal manager (Mr J. A. Chalk) having read the advertisement convening the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Copies of the reports and balance-sheet having been distributed amongst the shareholders, these were taken as read and received, on the motion of Messrs Welsh and Freeman.

Director's Report.—Accompanying this you will please find financial statements and auditors' report for past half-year, also mine manager's report, from which you will gather full particulars of the works performed and those now being carried on. We consider the result of the operations very satisfactory, and that there is every indication that the good stone (9 dwts. to the ton) worked at the 155 feet level will be met at lower levels. Amongst the business to be transacted at the half-yearly meeting will be to consider and determine on the disposal of the shares in the hands of and the property of the company. Dr. Eadie and Messrs Freeman and Welsh retire from the board by effluxion of time, but are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly. At your meeting to be held on 15th inst. you will please elect three Directors for twelve months, and two auditors for six months.—D. F. TROY, Chairman; J. A. CHALK, Manager.

Mine Manager's Report.—I beg to report as follows on the work performed during the past half-year. 155 feet level.—A small chamber was constructed on the west side of the shaft, and drive started south-east. At 15 feet from opening struck a lode west of the former workings carrying a strong, solid body of quartz three feet wide, of promising appearance, but which proved poor. When the drive had reached a distance of 78 feet from opening a rise was put up to connect with the winze sunk from the 100 feet level. After the connection was made an intermediate drive was put in on the course of the lode 60 feet, the stone being good, but rather small. It was then decided to open the shaft on the east side at the 155 feet level, and crosscut east. The lode was struck at 90 feet from the chamber, and drives north and south on the lode started. The north drive was extended 24 feet, and south drive 71 feet, total 95 feet, the lode being about 5 inches, same as in the upper levels, and the stone averaged 9dwts. per ton the whole distance, being equally as good as at the shallower levels, and three times the length, thus proving the gold to be continuing downwards. After consideration your directors determined to sink the main shaft for another level. This work is proceeding, and the present depth below the No. 1 or 155 feet level, is 52 feet, and 207 feet from the surface. The ground is hard, and water about 200 gallons per hour, which can be managed with the horse whim. I am still of the opinion that depth only is required to ensure the mine being a profitable one.—J. N. BAILEY, Mine Manager.

The balance-sheet showed that the receipts for the half-year ending 6th inst. had amounted to £815 1s 9d, and the expenditure to £773 0s 1d, thus leaving a credit balance of £42 1s 8d. The chief receipts were—Calls received, £483 8s 9d; balance last half-year, £128 3s 6d; loan, Bank of Victoria, Beaufort, £100; sale of gold, £98 9s 6d. The principal items of expenditure were—Wages, £542 1s 2d; ironmongery, powder and candles, £52 1s 10d; contract labor, £48 9s 3d; machinery and plant, £41 17s 7d; board fees, £25. The general balance-sheet showed receipts amounting to £2720 5s 10d, and expenditure to £2678 4s 2d. The capital account was £2390 8s 4d, the gold account £229 17s 6d, and the loan account £100. On the contra side the shares account totalled £1309 17s 11d; wages, £788 11s 7d; ironmongery, powder and candles, £171 11s 5d; contract labor, £149 10s 8d; machinery and plant, £101 7s 7d; board fees, £47 10s; stationery and advertising, £35 16s 9d. The assets (exclusive of value of mine and uncalled capital) were estimated at £426 13s 4d, and the liabilities at £125. There are 14,475 shares in the hands of and the property of the company.

The auditors, Messrs A. Parker and J. H. Cunningham, certified to the correctness of the books and accounts of the company.

The chairman said it was his pleasing duty to move the adoption of the reports and balance-sheet. Unfortunately, the past six months had not turned out according to expectations in one way, although on the other hand, after a lot of hard work and an anxious time, they had proved the shoot of gold to be longer than in the level above; but, unfortunately, it had not thickened out. They decided to push on with the work of sinking the shaft another 45ft., bringing it to 100ft.; but, unfortunately, the water had troubled them, and after considerable trouble and anxious thought, they had come to the conclusion that threepenny calls would not be sufficient to sink it, and that by keeping on sinking they would bring more water in and spoil their chance. They had therefore decided to open out at the present level (217ft.), drive 50ft., and have a look at the stone there. If there were no improvement, it was their intention to get the shares on hand off; but if, as expected, there was an improvement, they could go on without getting more shares off. They would notice by the balance-sheet that the board had sat without fees until things looked better, and were only acting once a month for fees. The mining manager had returned £4 a month, while the legal manager had treated them well from the start, and had only accepted half fees. If they managed to get on well with the drive, he hoped to see them repaid for the trouble they had gone to. The motion was seconded by Mr Freeman, and carried.

The retiring directors, viz., Dr. G. A. Eadie, Messrs J. Freeman and E. H. Welsh, were re-elected, on the motion of Messrs Troy and Eastwood.

The two retiring auditors, Messrs J. H. Cunningham and A. Parker, were also re-elected, on the motion of Mr Freeman, seconded by Dr. Eadie.

The chairman stated that there were 14,475 forfeited shares and the balance of shares not disposed of in the hands of the company, and that it was the intention of the directors at the present time to try and get a syndicate to take them up, which would see them through properly. The reason this matter was put on the business sheet was because the directors could not dispose of these shares without authority from the shareholders.

A formal motion was proposed by Mr P. Morris to the effect that the directors be and hereby are empowered to sell or

OUTCAST OF MILAN

PART 9.

CHAPTER XVII.

PRAYER!

As the reader must already be aware, the duke of Milan, through his captain, had, in his search for the princess, had recourse to the robbers. The outlaws had been set upon the track of the fugitives and a large reward promised them in case of success. One of their number, named Juan Toletti, who acted in the capacity of a spy, had, by some means, become assured that the princess had taken refuge somewhere upon the mountains, and, in the garb of a hunter, he made search in that direction. He had seen Marco Pazzoli ascend with provisions, and thus he gained a clue to the path, judging that the mountaineer must be carrying food to some one who dared not come down after it. With this clue he made his way up among the cliffs, and as he sat resting himself after a wearying tramp, he heard voices which seemed to sound from some point below him. He started up and moved forward, and while in the act of bending over a projecting point of rock he lost his hold and fell—fell, stunned and senseless, at the feet of the very lady of whom he was in search. How he was taken into the cave and nursed, and how he left, we have already seen.

As the spy made his way from the cavern, he was very careful to note the landmarks [illegible] guide him on his return, and when he reached the foot of the mountain, he was not long in [illegible] of his companions, to whom he [illegible] what he had discovered. As it [illegible] very near nightfall, they concluded [illegible]arch for any more of their nu[illegible] to the cavern and try [illegible] were. Toletti went ah[illegible]ern and succeeded in retrac[illegible] to the cave, and when they rea[illegible]rance they stopped for consultation.

"I know where the [illegible] males sleep," said the spy, "for I notic[illegible] which direction they went when they put away their garments, and I think if we are careful we can gag them, and get them away without noise. As for Vendorme, I suppose he is in the cave, but I know not if he has any male companion."

After some deliberation it was decided that Vendorme should not be troubled if it could be avoided, as the two females might [illegible] much of a [illegible] as they could safely [illegible] make [illegible] that place.

As he had promised, Toletti led the way to the apartment where the girls slept, and by careful management they were so effectually smothered before they awoke, that they could give no immediate alarm, and thus were they borne away from the cavern, and led down the mountain, the gags being kept upon their mouths until they had got very near to the river, where horses were in waiting. As soon as Rosabel could speak she begged for mercy, but the robbers would not listen to her. One of the villains, however, more bold than the rest, whispered into her ear that if she would go with him he would save her from the clutches of the duke. She turned eagerly towards him to find out what he meant. He meant that she should go with him and be his, and he was beginning to swear eternal fidelity and love, when she turned from him in disgust and horror. She asked no more favors at the hands of the robbers, but suffered herself to be lifted to a saddle, in which condition she was borne away towards Milan, and early in the following day she was lodged in her own apartments in the ducal palace, Hippolita still bearing her company. But the companions were not to remain long together. At noon a messenger came from Hugh de Castro and led Hippolita away, conducting her back to the dwelling of her master, where she was confined in a close apartment, with an old black woman to keep watch over her. Towards evening de Castro came, and when he stood before her he struck her on the cheek with his hand.

"Strike me again," she said, turning the other cheek to him.

"Are you so fond of being struck?" asked her master.

"Blows are what I expect sir," she replied.

"And they are what you deserve. But tell me—how did you escape from the city?"

"I rode out upon a horse, sir."

"And Orlando Vendorme was with you?"

"He was."

"And you set him free from his dungeon?"

"I did."

"What induced you to do such a thing?"

"That I might make some atonement for a grievous wrong which I had helped to do. When I led Vendorme to that dungeon, I did not dream of the horrible doom that awaited him. Had you told me that, no power could have induced me to help you I helped you ignorantly, but I was not ignorant when I helped the sufferer."

"Upon my soul, girl, you are frank."

"I can afford to be so."

"Then be as frank in answering me further. Where is Orlando Vendorme?"

"I cannot tell you, sir."

"You mean—you will not.'

"Put it as you please."

"Girl, if you do not answer me as I wish, you shall rue it. Now tell me—where did you leave Vendorme?"

"Once for all, sir," replied the girl, with heroic calmness, "I will not speak one word which can put the safety of Orlando Vendorme in jeopardy. Where he is now I cannot tell you, for I do not know. But that I may not be misunderstood, I tell you frankly—if I did know, I would not tell you."

De Castro clenched his fist, and struck the girl to the floor.

"Lay there, insolent wench!" he muttered, "and when I come again you will learn to answer me with more propriety. I do not leave you now because you have conquered, but because I have not the time to waste with you." Thus speaking he left the room closing and locking the door after him.

It was well into the evening, and Rosabel of Bergamo had slept several hours. She arose, and found a woman in attendance upon her. It was not one of her own women, but a servant whom the princess had seen at work in the garden.

"Why are you here?" Rosabel asked, when she recollected where she was, and what had traspired.

"I am here to wait upon you," was the reply, delivered in a rough, impudent way.

"And I suppose you are also here to keep guard over me?"

"No. There are soldiers in the passage who do that. But I can get supper for you, if you want it."

"I want nothing to eat. You may bring me some drink."

The woman brought the drink, and Rosabel then told her she might retire.

"I cannot do it lady. I am ordered to remain in the room with you."

The princess was offended, but she had too much sense of pride to show any resentment, so she withdrew to a window which overlooked one of the gardens, and sat down. She had not been thus seated many minutes before the door was opened, and the duke made his appearance. The attendant was dismissed and Manfred then turned to his ward, whom he regarded for some little time in silence.

"Well," he at length said, biting off the word as though language were insufficient to express his feelings. "So you are back again."

The princess bowed her head, and made no reply. She had determined upon the course she would pursue, and she sought the strength that might enable her to bear up.

"Did you think to escape me, Rosabel? Answer me."

"I hoped to escape, sir," she replied, looking up into his face.

"And whither had you planned to go?"

"Anywhere, so that I might be free from thy tyranny."

"Ho, ho, you are there, are you. You had no plan, I suppose! You had no lover with you!"

"I had a friend with me, sir."

"Yes, yes—and where did you leave that friend?"

"Where I hope he will be safe from the powers that are at work against him."

"Did you leave him in the place whence you were taken?"

"Send your robber minions back and let them search."

Manfred started angrily, and he seemed ready to smite the maiden with his fist.

"No, no," he said, "you shall not move me from my propriety. You are crazy, you are an idiot, you are a fool! But, my fair lady, let me tell you that men have been sent back after your gallant champion, and let me assure you that he will be taken, too, and when he is taken, he will be amply rewarded for the pains he has expended on your account. Perhaps you can imagine what the character of that reward will be."

A sense of faintness overcame the princess for a moment. She could understand what would be Vendorme's fate if he fell into the tyrant's power, and the thought was terrible. But she struggled up from the blow, and looked the duke once more in the face.

"I know what your disposition is," she said; "and I can imagine all the threats you would make; so you can spare me the pain of hearing them."

"Very well. Enough, then, of Vendorme until I can tell you exactly what has become of him. And now to another matter. I propose to have you married as soon as possible. It should be done this very night, but for my own convenience I must put it off until the day after to-morrow, when you will give your hand to Ludovico. Do you think you can escape this time?"

"Before God, the wife of Ludovico I never will be!" Rosabel spoke slowly and emphatically.

"The wife of Ludovico you must be," retorted the duke with equal emphasis.

"I have said my say, Duke of Milan; and you may now do your worst. Let come what may, I will never give a wife's pledge to your son."

"What care I for your pledge! One is coming to help me whose power is above all pledges; and it is for his presence that I wait."

The princess raised her eyes to the face of her guardian, and as he read the meaning of her look, he added:

"I wait for his holiness, the Pope of Rome, who will be here at the time I have mentioned."

"O," cried Rosabel, disguising none of the bitterness of her feeling, "you may bring him, and he may pronounce the false vows if he will. I shall not repeat them. You may so far make me a wife as to lay hands upon my estates of Bergamo; but in my soul a wife to Ludovico no power of earth can ever make me."

"Beware girl!" said the duke, pressing his hand upon her shoulder. "You know not what you say. If you give not your soul to this marriage, you give it to perdition."

"Yes; and I say it again," cried the princess, whose feelings were now aroused. "Death is but death—and death is preferable to the fate you would impose upon me. And after death I will lay me in the arms of my Saviour, and trust to his redeeming love."

She was upon her knees, with her clasped hands raised towards Heaven; and a prayer fell from her lips, as she bowed her head till the dark tresses floated over her face. Once, while she had been speaking, the duke had started forward as though he would strike her; but when she sank upon her knees, and her voice broke into that impassioned prayer, he stopped and trembled.

"Bah!" he uttered, stamping his foot; "you are crazy! But I am glad you have spoken so frankly, even in your madness, for now I shall know how to govern myself. The marriage will come off, as I have said; and you are at liberty to make as much trouble for yourself as you please. Only let me give you a gentle hint: You should know the disposition of Ludovico, and be thus aware of the pains you must suffer if he has more occasion to be angry with you."

When Manfred had thus spoken, he turned from the apartment, and shortly afterwards the old woman entered and resumed her watch.

Rosabel might have wept if she had been alone; but she would not shed tears in the presence of the unsympathizing sentinel. She retired to her inner chamber, where she soon sought her couch; and as she rested her head upon her pillow, she offered up new prayers to Heaven. She prayed that God would have mercy upon her; but a more fervent prayer was breathed for Orlando Vendorme.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE BLOCK.

Ludovico had not yet seen the princess since her return, and he preferred not to do so until the hour for the marriage ceremony arrived.

"If I should see her, it might only make trouble for me," he said, as he conversed with his father on the day following her arrival. "At all events, it could do no good."

"You are right, my son," replied the duke. "Since matters are arranged so safely for us, it is not worth while to trouble the girl unnecessarily. By this marriage, we will add Bergamo to our dominions, which, with the friendship of the Consul of Rome, will make our house the most powerful in Lombardy. And, my boy, if Alfonso of Modena is not very witty—more witty than I think he will be—he shall fall beneath us."

"But are you sure of the aid of the Roman Consul?" asked Ludovico.

"Yes," said Manfred, rubbing his hands with evident satisfaction. "Crescentius and the Pope are both with me; and their influence cannot be well overcome. His Holiness will be here to-morrow, and will, in person, solemnize your marriage."

Upon this Ludovico rubbed his hands, and declared that things were working better than he had even dared to hope. He had just spoken to this effect, when Hugh de Castro entered the apartment.

"How now, my captain?" cried the duke. "What brings you in such haste?"

"There is a messenger without, my lord, who would speak with you."

"Who is he?"

De Castro cast his eyes over the apartment.

"We are alone," said Manfred.

"The man is named Pietro Bonzo. He is one of the robbers."

"Does he bring us news of Vendorme?"

"Yes."

"Then let him come in."

In a very few moments de Castro introduced the robber into the ducal presence. He was habited in the garb of a peasant, but his face told well enough what he was.

"Well, sir," said Manfred, not at all shocked by the association, "what word do you bring?"

"My lord duke," replied the outlaw, bowing very slightly as he spoke, "a reward was offered to us on condition that we would find Rosabel of Bergamo, and restore her to your keeping; and another reward was offered for the capture of Orlando Vendorme. The lady has been restored to you. And, furthermore, Vendorme has been taken; but, as we were not directed to bring him hither, we have secured him, and are ready to produce him when it may so please you."

"So works the matter still in our favor," cried Manfred, clapping his hands exultingly. "With this fellow secure we are safe from further trouble. Where is the knight?"

"He is in a quiet nook, my lord, not many leagues away. I can bring him to you by the rising of another sun."

"I think," remarked the duke, turning to his captain, "that we do not want the fellow here."

De Castro nodded in approval of the suggestion.

"I do not see," continued his highness, "what need there is of having much more trouble with him."

The captain nodded again.

"If I am not mistaken sir," the duke said, addressing the robber, "you do not love your prisoner much."

"We owe him nothing but vengeance, my lord."

"Then you may earn your reward easily. You can act the peasant, and I will give orders to the guard to allow you to pass with fruit for the palace. You can bring the fruit in panniers, can you not?"

"Yes, my lord."

"And in a pannier, covered with citron leaves, you can bring me the head of Orlando Vendorme?"

"Yes."

"Mind—I want only the head. I want it brought secretly and punctually. I would behold it with my own eyes."

"And so would I," added Ludovico, with a gesture of mad delight. "I would give more to see the unbodied head of Orlando Vendorme than I would to see the emperor at my feet."

"It is a safe and righteous decision," said de Castro.

"Aye," resumed the duke, "it shall be so. How is it, Pietro Bonza—shall it be done?"

"Yes, my lord."

"And there shall be no mistake—no failure?"

"There can be none, your highness. The prisoner is bound, and his keepers only await my return."

"Then bring me his head as quickly as you can."

"You shall have it to-morrow."

"At what time?"

"As early as possible. I said that I could bring the prisoner hither alive by the rising of the sun; but if I must find fruit, and prepare panniers, it may take some time longer. But it shall be sometime to-morrow."

"Remember—when the head is delivered a hundred gold sequins are yours."

"There shall be no failure," replied the robber emphatically.

When Pietro Bonza was dismissed from the ducal presence, he made his way out from the city as quickly as possible, and started upon his return mission. He stopped at Monza to transact a little business with one of the robber agents, and just as the sun was sinking he reached the place where he had left his companions with their prisoner. He found one of the band there but no more.

"How is this, Bernardo? Where are our companions?"

"They have gone further north, Master Pietro; and I was left to give you intelligence, and also to guide you after them."

"But why is this?"

"It is for a matter of safety. Not long after the sun was up this morning we got news that a large party of troops were on our track, and as we lay so near to their route, our captain thought it best to move He has gone towards Como."

"Troops!" cried Pietro, in surprise "What troops can be here at this time?"

"I don't know," replied Bernardo. "I didn't see them. They were stout rascals our informant said, and led by doughty knights. They may have been Milanese."

"I don't think so, Bernardo."

"Why not?"

"Because I have just come from Milan and none of the troops are absent from the city. More likely they were from the north. But is it known that they were after us?"

"It is known that they had been making inquiries about us, and they were coming directly towards us. However, I have not seen them yet, and I know not where they are. In all probability they have pushed on to the south."

"Not by the road to Milan," said Pietro "or I should have met them."

"Well, it makes no difference. They have gone somewhere; and we may as well follow on after our companions."

"You are right, Bernardo."

"Unless," said Bernardo, "you have some other plan."

"What other plan can I have?"

"I don't know. I suppose you have seen the Duke of Milan?"

"Yes."

"Well—I thought, if he had paid you the reward—"

"Ha, ha! you are witty, Bernardo. If I had a hundred golden sequins, you fancy that you and I might find use for it, eh?"

"I didn't say so."

"I know—but I think you meant it However, I haven't got them; so we have nothing to do but to draw our reins, and find our captain."

It was nearly dark when the two robbers set out, and as the path was a narrow and dubious one, they were forced to move slowly. They found their companions in a deep wood near the hills of Cantu, and when they had dismounted and secured their horses, it was almost morning.

By a large rock, where a mass of vines were woven almost to the form of a tent, lay Orlando Vendorme bound hand and foot, with a sentinel keeping watch over him. As the first beams of morning struggled in through the thick foliage, he awoke from a troubled slumber, and asked the guard to loosen the bond upon his arm.

But the fellow would not do it.

"My chieftain gave me no such orders," he said. "Wait till he comes."

"Will you not call him? Tell him, if he means to kill me, he should do it at once, and not rack me thus."

"Hold—here he comes. Now you can ask him."

A dark-visaged, powerfully framed man, wearing an ostrich plume in his velvet cap, approached the spot where the prisoner sat. This was Lanzilla, the chief of the robbers. He had, in former years, been a knight of Mantua; but a great crime had subjected him to the loss of his spurs; and, seeking the Alpine banditti, he had joined their number, and finally risen to be their leader. He stood by the prisoner's side, and looked down into his pain-marked face.

"Orlando Vendorme," he said, "do you remember when you were first banished from Milan, that you met me by the bank of the Saveso?"

"Yes," replied our hero; "I remember it very well."

"And do you remember the proposition I then made to you?"

"Yes."

"If you had accepted it, you would not have been where you now are."

"Perhaps not."

"No,—you would have been a free and independent man, owing allegiance to no earthly monarch; and only governed by a chief of your own choice. But your choice was not with us. Perhaps you remember the next time you met me?"

"Yes," said Orlando. "I helped a party of gentlemen whom you had attacked; and I suppose you now intend to have ample revenge."

"Ah," returned Lanzilla, shaking his head slowly from side to side, "I don't know how that may be. If you were left wholly at my disposal, I think I should offer you once more an opportunity to join us."

"You would offer in vain."

"Then you are the greater fool. I tell you, Master Vendorme, the time is not far distant when our free band will be able to shake the petty thrones of Lombardy. However, you need not fret yourself with the idea of loss, for I could not make you the offer if I would. You are not my prisoner."

"Whose am I, then?"

"Perhaps I speak a little wide of the mark, sir knight. You are my prisoner, but not held for my use. I hold you for the present; but I hold you subject to the orders of another."

"Subject to the orders of the tyrant of Milan, is it?"

"If you will have it so—yes."

"And will you conduct me to him?"

"Not yet."

"What will you do?"

"Ere long you shall see."

"One word, sir," cried the captive, as Lanzilla turned to move away. "Will you not loosen the bond upon my arms?"

"Yes,—but not now!"

What did he mean? Why did he answer so abruptly, and stride away so suddenly? What was to be done? Orlando turned to a man who stood near, and asked him which way they meant to move. The man looked at him, and shook his head, vouchsafing no other answer.

In a little while the robber chieftain returned, accompanied by two of his companions. He looked more stern than before, and upon his brow there was a dark scowl.

"Orlando Vendorme," he said, "I had thought of sending you your way without giving you any notice thereof; but my companions have overruled me. For my part, I forgive you for the work you once did against us; but not so with the others. My lieutenant leads in the determination to make you suffer."

"Aye," interposed a stout, dark-visaged man, moving forward as he spoke, "I have not forgotten that my own brother fell by this fellow's hands. I am not so forgiving."

"Nor I," added another of the robbers. "This man struck us without provocation. We had never harmed him. He smote down the dearest friend I ever had.'

"You see," said Lanzilla, "what the feeling is."

"Aye," replied our hero, "I see it very plainly; but you have not told me what is to be my fate."

"Your fate is—DEATH!"

Vendorme was startled with horror. Such a thought had floated through his mind, but he had not given it reflection. He looked around upon the dark, stern faces of those who gathered about him, and he saw little there of sympathy.

"Do you mean that you will murder me?" he asked.

"No," replied the chieftain; "we have no such thought. We are to execute you. It is the order of the Duke of Milan that you die, and I am to send your head to him. This it was which I did not mean to tell you; but my men were clamorous to see you suffer. Had the matter been left for me to carry out at will, I would have put you to rest with the prick of a javelin, and saved you all contemplation of your doom. Still, sir, I can grant you one favor: You may choose in what manner you will die."

"In the name of that honor which is the part of every brave man," cried Orlando, "I appeal to you—"

"Stop," said the robber, with a wave of the hand; "don't misunderstand me. I have nothing whatever to do with your death, or with your life. I did not capture you, nor am I responsible. You were taken by my companions—they took you by the order of the duke—and by order of the duke you are to die. I tell you this so that you shall never carry out of the world with you the thought that Lanzilla sought such revenge. I make no secrets, because you cannot bear tales from here! Now speak, if you have a choice. How will you die?"

The bound knight looked around once more, but he saw no friend. All within the gloom of the deep wood—the gaze of the robbers; the heavy shadows; the gnarled and twisted trunks of the great old trees; the sighing wind; all seemed to bear to him the record of his doom.

"I have no choice," he said.

"Reflect."

"There is no need of reflection. An expression of choice would be a recognition of my fate. I have no hand in it. If I must be murdered to satisfy the demand of a base tyrant, he who does the coward deed may have the choice of means."

"Then," returned the chieftain, "I will myself give the decision. The blow that takes your life shall give us your head."

As Lanzilla turned towards his lieutenant, apparently to give some order touching the execution, the robbers were startled by the footfall of a horse; and presently a stranger rode up to the spot where the band had been encamped. A messenger was dispatched to ascertain who the intruder was, and when he returned he reported that Marco Pazzoli sought the missing knight.

"It is the hunter, is it?" said Lanzilla.

"Yes."

"The one who led the princess to the cavern?"

"Yes."

"Is he alone?"

"Yes."

"Then go and secure him. Bind him hand and foot, and if he makes any disturbance, gag him,—choke him if, he need be."

Four of the robbers went to execute this command, and when their work had been done, Lanzilla turned once more to his lieutenant.

"You have a stout arm, and a sharp sword."

"Yes," was the answer.

"And you will strike for the duke?"

"Aye, and for vengeance, too!"

"Then bring the block. This work shall be quickly done; and then we'll send to Manfred of Milan his pannier of fruit! He will not get it so soon as it was promised; but it may be none the less acceptable for that."

(To be Continued).

BABY IN VARIOUS LANDS.

In Ireland a belt made of woman's hair is placed about a child to keep harm away.

Garlic, salt, bread, and steak are put into the cradle of a new-born babe in Holland.

Roumanian mothers tie red ribbons around the ankles of their children to preserve them from harm, while Esthonian mothers attach bits of assafœtida to the necks of their offspring.

Welsh mothers put a pair of tongs or a knife in the cradle to insure the safety of their children; the knife is also used for the same purpose in some parts of England.

At the birth of a child in lower Brittany the neighbouring women take it in charge, wash it, crack its joints, and rub its head with oil to solder the cranium bones. It is then wrapped in a tight bundle and its lips are anointed with brandy to make it a full Breton.

The Grecian mother, before putting her child in its cradle, turns three times around before the fire, while singing her favourite song, to ward off evil spirits.

In Scotland it is said that to rock the empty cradle will insure the coming of occupants for it.

The London mother places a book under the head of the new-born infant, that it may be quick at reading, and puts money into its first bath to guarantee its future wealth.

The Turkish mother loads her child with amulets as soon as it is born, and a small bit of mud, well steeped in hot water, prepared by previous charms, is stuck on its forehead.

In Spain the infant's face is swept with a pine-tree bough, to bring good luck.

In America the child is handed over to a nurse, with instructions to "raise it on the bottle."

Where the Trouble Lies.

They were discussing the household expenses of the future, as young people will do under such circumstances.

"In Japan," she said, with a sigh, as she thought of his income, "a man can pay for a house, food and two servants on $300 a year."

"But think of the cost of getting there," he answered.

Its Use.

"What's the use of a peace conference?" inquired the skeptic.

"A great deal of use!" answered the diplomat indignantly. "It's a barometer. If we can get through a peace conference without a fight it will be a pretty good sign that we can get through several years without a general war."

RATHER AN AMBIGUOUS ASSURANCE.

"I hope my visits are not disagreeable to you," he said.

"Not at all," she politely answered.

"I have sometimes thought that I wearied you."

"Oh; no. No matter how gloomy I feel when you call, I am always happy when you go."

Except Noah and Company.—"He can trace his ancestry back to the flood."

"Oh, pshaw. That's nothing. Everybody was in the swim then."

Those Literary Phrases.

She—What made them think the sailor stuck to his post?

He—Because, I suppose, his eyes were glued to the spot.

MR. PICKWICK AND BATH.

There was a small hamlet some few miles from Bath and ninety-seven from London—which is 106 miles away from Bath—bearing the name of "Pickwick." The Bath coach, by the way, started from the White Horse Cellars, Piccadilly at half-past seven in the morning, and took just twelve hours for the journey. Now it is made by the Great-Western in two! Here, many years ago, at the time of the story, was "Pickwick House, the seat of C. N. Loscombe, Esq.," and also "Pickwick Lodge," where dwelt Captain Fenton. "Boz" had never seen or heard of such places, but all the same they indirectly furnished him with the name. A mail-coach guard found an infant on the road in this place, and gave it the name of "Pickwick." The word "Pickwick" contains the common terminal "wick," as in "Warwick"—an affix which means a village or hamlet of some kind. Pickwick, however, has long since disappeared from the face of the map. Probably after the year 1837 folk did not relish dating their letters from a spot of such humorous memories. This foundling, Eleazar Pickwick, was taken into the service of the coaching hotel, the White Hart, devoted himself to the horse and coaching business, and at the time of "Boz's" or Mr. Pickwick's visit, his grandson, Moses, was the actual proprietor of the coaches on the road. "The name," said Sam, "is not only down on the vay-bill, sir, but they've painted vun on 'em on the door of the coach." As Sam spoke he pointed to that part of the door on which the proprietor's name usually appears, and there, sure enough, in gilt letters of goodly size, was the magic name of Pickwick. "Dear me," said Mr. Pickwick, quite staggered by the coincidence, "what a very extraordinary thing!" "Yes; but that ain't all," said Sam, again directing his master's attention to the coach door. "Not content with writin' up Pickwick, they put 'Moses' afore it, which I calls adding insult to injury." "It's odd enough, certainly," said Mr. Pickwick. It may be noted here what an air of reality this imparts, and how unlikely we should be to find such a touch in a modern novel. When he was casting about for a good name for his venture, it recurred to him as having a quaint oddity and uncanniness. And thus it is that we owe to Bath, and to Bath only, this celebrated name. Many years ago a Mr. Pickwick actually changed his name by public advertisement. This ordinary event caused quite a public sensation. The owner was reminded that it was an old and honourable name—coming originally from Pique vite—and it was not Count Smorltork who suggested this derivation.

AN ABERDEENSHIRE CHARACTER.

Who is there who ever spent twenty-four hours in the pleasant Aberdeenshire village of A—— without hearing something of Sandy Fraser, or "Kelpie," as he was best known by? He was intensely superstitious, and got the latter name from a most graphic account he gave of a desperate encounter he once had with a lawless and bloodthirsty specimen of the water demon. The real facts were that, coming home one night in a highly-tipsyfied state, he had to wade through a burn, and on scrambling up the bank on the other side he landed among a flock of Waterside's sheep, and a warlike ram kept himself in practice by butting him several times back into the water. Kelpie was a sort of Rip Van Winkle in dress—always twenty or thirty years behind the times. "Fat for dae ye wear they auld-fashioned claes, Kelpie?" he was asked. "Ow, just for the same reason ye wear thae new-fashioned anes—tae keep oot the cauld." He was endowed with quaint humour, and his quiet satirical answers disconcerted even those who knew him best. He liked a dram of "rael Glenlivet," but next to this his favourite drink was good, strong home-brewed ale, but it had to be brisk or "wirkin'," as he called it. "I dout ye'll no like that," said Mains' wife handing him a tumbler of rather dead, washy stuff—"It's no wirkin' ava." Gulping down a mouthful of the mixture, Kelpie slyly remarked—"'Deed, it wad be a sin tae bid it wirk; it's no able, Mrs. Duncan. It's awfu' weak."

Though Kelpie was a regular church attender, he was by no means unduly impressed with the sanctity of the place when he considered the occasion demanded otherwise. One Sunday there happened to be a slight leak in the roof, and a big drop splashed down on his bare poll. As he sat directly below the front seat of the "loft" he set the occurrence down to another cause. Looking up, he called out indignantly—"Hey, wha's that spittin' doon on ma heid?" Kelpie took his weather from a certain almanac, and such was his faith in it that dire was his perplexity when anything unusual happened without being foretold in it. A number of boys captured about a score of frogs, and, creeping up to Kelpie's hut, they quietly slipped them in below the door. He was dozing at the fireside, but the peculiar "sklap, sklap" of the frogs roused him up. He glanced at the floor, and then bounded to his feet in horror, exclaiming—"Michty! preserve's a'! a plague o' puddocks an' no' a cheep aboot it i' the almanac." One other anecdote must close Kelpie's biography. He was acting as a "postie" for some time, and, thinking his wages too small, he asked a rise. This was refused, the postmaster remarking—"I measured the distance on the map, and I find it is not more than three miles as the crow flies." Kelpie knew it was much more owing to detours to avoid bogs, &c., and he warmly retorted—"Measure't as the craw walks, Maister Douglas; I canna flee."

SABAC EL CHER.

There is in the German army a bandmaster named Sabac el Cher. Notwithstanding his name, he is a native German, but his father came from Lower Egypt and spent his boyhood at the Court of the Viceroy in Cairo, where he was educated. There he made the acquaintance of Prince Albrecht of Prussia, a brother of the old Emperor William, who took him to Berlin, where he married a Berlin woman and entered the service of the Prince. His son was born in 1867. He was Sabac el Cher, a musical lad, who began to study the violin when he was eight years old. Later he went to a conservatoire, and in 1885 he entered the military service as oboe and trombone player in the 35th Regiment of Royal Prussian Fusiliers—Prince Henry of Prussia's. Having served there several years, he went to the Royal High School for Music in Berlin for further study, where he was under the most noted teachers. He passed his examination in 1895, and in that year was appointed bandmaster of the 1st Grenadier Regiment at Konigsberg. He still retains this post, and his band has won much applause for its public performances. It appeared with success at the International Art Exposition at Dresden.

TEST OF CONJUGAL AFFECTION.

In "The Travels of Foure Englishmen," published in 1612, may be read this description of a test of conjugal affection employed by the Nazaritans:—

"They buy their wives of their fathers as others their dwellings doe), but never see them untill they come to be married, nor then neither untill the marriage be solemnised betwixt them, for there is a partition in the place where they meete to be married, and the man and his friends stand on the one side, and the young woman and her friends on the other side, where they may heare but not see one another untill the priest bid the young man put his hand thorow an hole in the wall and take his wife by the hand. And whilst they are hand in hand the mother of the maid cometh with some sharp instrument made for the purpose, and pricketh the new married man's hand and maketh it bleed. And if he letteth her hand goe when he feeleth his hand smart, they hold it for a sign that he will not love her; but if he hold fast (notwithstanding the smart) and ring her hard by the hand untill she cry, rather than he will once shrinke, then he is counted a loving man, and her friends are glad that they have bestowed her on him."

Demand and Supply.

"Boy, what's the excitement here?"

"Dere's a guy in here dat advertised to trade a bisickle fur a hoss, and dere are hoss owners fightin to see which kin git to him first."

MEN OF FASHION "BUILT" TO ORDER.

"Make no mistake about it," said a well-known West-End tailor, "men are just as conceited regarding their figures as women. Indeed, some men are harder to please than the vainest of society beauties, and require any amount of attention. But we don't complain. It is the art of the tailor to make people look different from what they really are. This may appear strange, but none the less it is a fact. We are trained to it; and the tailor who can't alter a man's shape might as well throw down the scissors for ever—provided, of course, he seeks to do a high-class trade." "Then, do you mean to say all those magnificent figures that we see are the production of the tailor, and that we don't know the shape of our closest friends?" "To a certain extent that is so, especially where men of fashion are concerned. A few men, of course, have good figures, but the great majority of fashionable men go to their tailor not merely for clothes but to get a decent-looking body. It is the tailor's business to build a man up, so to speak. And by 'building' I really mean building. Padding is the secret of the whole thing. We pad clothes in such a way that the most puny-shaped individual can be made to look a strapping fellow with square shoulders. There are plenty of fashionable men whose figures are the admiration of ladies, but who in reality are bottle-shaped to a most cruel extent. You could find this out for yourself by grasping them by the shoulders. Instead of a hard, well-formed shoulder-blade you would find your hand sinking into padding of two or three inches in thickness. In ordinary clothes—cheap stuff, that is to say—these people would look simply grotesque for the simple reason that their natural figures are grotesque. There is a fashionable military man who is celebrated for his magnificent figure. As a matter of fact, he is a very weak-chested creature indeed, but the faithful tailor has come to his aid, and he looks quite a respectable Hercules—that is, when he has a suit of clothes on, mind!

We experience a lot of trouble with certain of these people, I can tell you. Sometimes a man comes in and expects you to make his chest look six inches broader at the very least. We can't do quite that, but we can so cut his coat that he will appear very fairly proportioned. Fat men, again, are a dreadful source of anxiety. Having tried all the remedies for obesity, they turn to the tailor—and I may tell you without boasting that the tailor's art is far more effective in the cure of obesity than the most severe course of Turkish baths. Generally speaking, it is comparatively easy to make a fat man look slighter than he really is. We have to do it constantly. What we do is to cut a fat man's clothes a size or two too small for him. They look well enough; and the wearer presents a far better appearance than his real size warrants. I well recall an enormous gentleman coming to me with tears in his eyes. He begged me to make him look thinner. I succeeded, and he made me a very handsome present. It appeared that he had married a very tiny wife, and that whenever the couple took their walks abroad they had been subjected to the vulgar mirth of the crowd. Some of my customers give me most elaborate instructions as to padding every time they visit my establishment. Waistcoats are often thickly padded to increase the size of the chest, but a still more singular practice is that resorted to by a well-known dandy, who pads his legs as if he were a football player. When I measure him for new unmentionables, which I frequently do, I invariably find him wearing pads—and pads of considerable thickness, too. I know one man who practically pads himself all over. His figure is, indeed, made up of padding, and I am perfectly certain that if he discarded his padding and took to wearing clothes that really fitted him, his friends wouldn't recognise him!"

EXTRAORDINARY FURNITURE FREAKS.

I learned from a visit to a big London furnishing company that occasionally, either by accident or due to some eccentric customer's order, the most curious furniture monstrosities are turned out, and get placed on the market.

A few years ago a City firm produced a giant in the shade of a sideboard which was probably the tallest that has ever seen light. It was over forty feet high, and to dust the top of it one would require a ladder tall enough to reach the roof of an ordinary house. The monster was exhibited as a freak in the Paris Exhibition

A short time later the same firm built a dining table for the Worshipful Company of Tea Growers in the shape of an acorn.

But this is not so curious, perhaps, as a dwarf piano recently made by one of the best known firms in the country for the use of a musical "midget." Despite the fact that it is probably the smallest piano in existence, it is quite perfect in every way, and it cost an almost fabulous price to produce.

A Spanish mahogany overmantel carved to represent a miniature jungle was recently turned out to a wealthy tea planter's order. It was a unique idea, though not quite so startlingly original, perhaps, as that of a New York millionaire, who had a hat-stand made in the shape of a human skeleton.

A FISH WITHOUT A TAIL.

A few weeks ago one of the most extraordinary fish ever known came to light in Devonshire. It was a chub, found in a muddy pool, and certainly it was as hideous a thing as one could well imagine.

It was imprisoned in a sort of cage formed of the roots of an elm tree that projected under the water, and it had evidently wormed its way into this prison when quite small. Being unable to find its way out it had been forced to grow in the shape of its cage instead of the natural form that all chub should take.

With no room to develop the fish's tail had disappeared altogether, save for a little deformed stump that had wedged its way between the roots of the tree. The back fin had also vanished, for there was no room for it to grow in. The whole body of the luckless chub was distorted, and had grown into the gnarled and twisted form of the root cage. The scales were incrusted with mud and arranged in layers like roof-slates.

It is a puzzle to imagine how the fish fed and lived during its growing years in that watery prison, and what it did when times were hard and no food came by. It seemed contented enough, and was certainly healthy and strong in spite of its distorted shape.

It Talked Louder.

"Yes," he said in those deep, mellow tones which were wont to set the rabble in a roar; "yes, I have gone into vaudeville. I do an act with a soubrette and a trained dog. I know what you will say. It is debasing to my dreams of high art. I will not contradict you. But whither was my artistic ideal leading me? Think of that. High art is soul convincing in its way, but here is something that talks still more eloquently."

And he smote with his open palm upon his pocket.

As he did so there came forth the pleasant jingle of many coins.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Papa—Look worried? Is it any wonder? Here, after all my care and anxiety, I wake up to find my stocks worthless.

Daughter—Oh, pa, dear, is your business in the city ruined?

Papa—Oh, hang the city! I mean these stocks here. I've picked no less than six slugs off two of them.—Nuggets.

THE LATE LORD LEIGHTON.

HOW HE BECAME FAMOUS.

There was never any doubt about Lord Leighton becoming a great artist, for he was born a veritable child of Art.

Having hinted to Lord Leighton that an account, related by himself, of his early struggles and present mode of work would be of deep interest, the President of the Royal Academy kindly invited me (writes a "Cassell's Saturday Journal" representative) to pay him a visit at his beautiful home in Kensington. We began by chatting about the great painter's very earliest days.

"Ever since I can remember anything," said Lord Leighton, "I always had the keenest desire to become an artist. Why this was so I cannot explain, for I was not born in artistic surroundings. However, by the time I had reached the age of twelve I had already drawn a few large designs, some of which I have still in my possession. There was considerable prejudice against the painter's life in those days, and, although they did not categorically oppose me, my father and mother would not give their consent to my adopting the profession unless they could satisfy themselves that I should become a first-rate artist. On the other hand, my father afforded me every facility for drawing, and when I was twelve years old I was sent to the Academy at Berlin.

"At Florence, in 1845, when I was fifteen, I suggested that the matter ought to be settled one way or the other, and my father there and then said that if Mr. Hiram Power spoke well of my work he would give his consent. So he took a bundle of my drawings and consulted Power. They were all historical designs, and what used to be called in old days, rather pretentiously, 'in the grand style.' As you may imagine, I awaited the verdict with considerable trepidation, but, happily, I was soon relieved.

"What happened was this. In reply to my father, who asked whether he should make me an artist, Mr. Power said he couldn't help himself, as Nature had already done it.

"'But will he become an eminent artist?' my father cautiously inquired.

"'Your son, sir, can be as eminent as he pleases,' was the answer."

I asked the President to tell me something about his first success in London, and the manner in which he fought for fame.

"The first picture I exhibited in London was at the Royal Academy, when I was not quite twenty-five. The picture was immediately purchased by the Queen, and is now at Windsor. I can't help saying that the merit attributed to this work was exaggerated, a fact decidedly strange in the light of later events. The next year I exhibited what I thought was a far better picture. It was received with uniform and severe condemnation. This, I may tell you, took place before the influence of foreign art was felt in England, and I was therefore dubbed a foreigner.

"I don't hesitate to say that the picture was foredoomed to attack, for I was warned by letters intimating that I was about to be subjected to adverse criticism. The result of it all was that I sold nothing for several years."

"Did you find it difficult to get pictures hung at the Academy?"

"I have never been numbered among the rejected of the R.A. Once a canvas of mine was not hung, but Mr. Frith wrote to me at the time, saying that, owing to the limited space, the picture could only be badly placed, if placed at all. It was, therefore, returned with this kind word of explanation, and praise for the quality of the work. I ought in justice to say that in that year I had one or more pictures very well hung. I cannot, therefore, speak of struggles; nor was I ever dependent on my brush for subsistence. For a man who is devoted to his art I think in is extremely good for him to be independent."

"May I inquire as to your methods?"

"I always have six or seven canvases going. If I say I am going to do that arm, that drapery or that head, I try to do it, and then I turn from one picture to the other, which is rest in itself. I have the reputation of being a rapid worker, but in reality I am a very steady, slow worker. I make many experiments before I begin, but when I start I go straight away. I work with a belief that a deliberate work is the swiftest.

"As for waiting for inspiration, I have no faith in it. On some days I feel as if I can't paint, but it is my strong conviction that one ought not to give way to the spirit of disinclination. Waiting for the mood, being unable to control oneself, is the stamp of amateurism. My principle is that one ought always to control oneself.

"Am I bothered by folk who would like a little picture for nothing. People who say they cannot afford to buy my pictures sometimes write and ask me to send them a sketch."

If any artist is overwhelmed with the attentions of models, surely the President of the Royal Academy is the victim-in-chief.

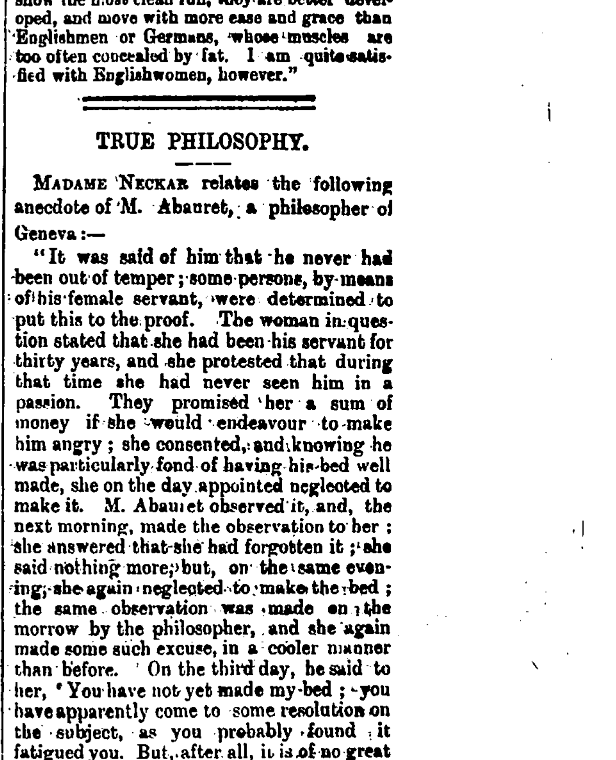
"I always see a model whenever I can," he says, "for a beautiful model may turn up at any time. For general purposes—that is, as regards nude models—I think the excellence of Italians admits of no comparison. Their forms show the most clean run, they are better developed, and move with more ease and grace than Englishmen or Germans, whose muscles are too often concealed by fat. I am quite satisfied with Englishwomen, however."

TRUE PHILOSOPHY.

MADAME NECKAR relates the following anecdote of M. Abauret, a philosopher of Geneva:—

"It was said of him that he never had been out of temper; some persons, by means of his female servant, were determined to put this to the proof. The woman in question stated that she had been his servant for thirty years, and she protested that during that time she had never seen him in a passion. They promised her a sum of money if she would endeavour to make him angry; she consented, and knowing he was particularly fond of having his bed well made, she on the day appointed neglected to make it. M. Abauret observed it, and, the next morning, made the observation to her; she answered that she had forgotten it; she said nothing more; but, on the same evening, she again neglected to make the bed; the same observation was made on the morrow by the philosopher, and she again made some such excuse, in a cooler manner than before. On the third day, he said to her, 'You have not yet made my bed; you have apparently come to some resolution on the subject, as you probably found it fatigued you. But, after all, it is of no great consequence, as I begin to accustom myself to it as it is.' She threw herself at his feet, and avowed all to him."

Making Change.



Official—Certainly, there's a bounty of 3 marks for killing an otter. Where did you find him?

Peasant—In the forest of Stolzenberg.

Official—Well, there's a fine of 5 marks for trespassing there, so you owe just 2 marks!

The Game In Samoa.

"Do you feel like a king at last!" asked the devoted friend of Mataafa.

"I do," [illegible] "I feel like a king who is liable to be jumped any minute."

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'Twixt Love and Gold.

PART 12.

A HIGHLY SENSATIONAL ROMANCE OF LOVE AND ADVENTURE.

By J. Hanmer Quail,

Author of "The Cup Winners," "His Madeline," "Fenton Friars," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XVI Continued.

Charlie drew back his right arm, and with clenched fist swung his arm round as if he were going to drive Malcolm over the distant Grampians "All right. Save that for Bexfield. Then we'll go. Shake hands."

Malcolm held his right hand towards Charlie Drayton. Charlie swept his arm round again until their two hands met.

"Then it is agreed that we go to South Africa to bring Miss Merriman back," said Malcolm with fresh animation.

"To the world's end, if you like, old chum," was the response.

"Good. We will go. When shall we start?"

"To-morrow, if you like."

"That will do. I will be ready."

So Malcolm Cameron and his old friend, Charlie Drayton decided that they would go to South Africa and follow Wylva Merriman and bring her back to England again. The more they thought of it the more they felt that she was the victim of a cruel and designing man, and the more determined they became to checkmate him in his designs and to bring him to justice.

CHAPTER XVII.

Mrs. Chambers was plying the garden trowel with her customary ten-o'clock-in-the-morning energy in the green house which stood at the south end of Oak Lodge. She was preparing the soil in a number of square pots for some bulbs she had received that morning, which she wanted to plant for early flowering. The greenhouse was her hobby. In the spring, summer and autumn she breakfasted early, and as soon as breakfast was over she would put on a pair of gardening gloves and go into the greenhouse for an hour. She was proud of her plants and flowers and tended them with as much care as if they were delicate children. This morning she had picked off a few fading leaves from some of the geraniums, and had given a few touches to some sprays of maidenhair fern which to her prim eye looked disorderly and then had reached for her trowel to prepare the soil for the bulbs. The morning sun streamed through the glass at the end of the greenhouse and gave a delicate freshness to fronds and leaves which hung and drooped in semi-transparent beauty from roof and stand. Without the birds sang boisterously. The greenhouse was a miniature Eden, and Mrs. Chambers was very susceptible to its pleasant charms.

She was digging away lustily, humming a tune to herself, when she heard the handle of the door turn. She looked up as the maid entered.

"Well Melia, what is it?" Mrs. Chambers asked, pausing in her work.

"Please'm a gentleman—a Mr. Finchley 'as come. 'E wants to see you very particular. 'E's in the sitting-room."

"Oh, Melia! Who is he?"

"I don't know 'm. 'E looks like a lawyer, or an inspector, or an insurance man, or a gentleman wot tunes the pianner, or something of that sort 'm; 'e said 'e must see you as it was very particular."

"How provoking at this time of morning. Well! I will come. Say I will be there in a few minutes, Melia," said Mrs. Chambers as she looked first at one of her gloves and then at the other, and then laid down her trowel. Passing out of the greenhouse she closed the door behind her and followed the maid into the house.

A few minutes later she went to the sitting-room.

A sharp-featured man of about five and forty rose from a chair as she entered. He had on a much crumpled black frock-coat and looked as if he might have been a lawyer's clerk, detective, or inquisitor-general of a private inquiry agency.

"Good-morning, Mrs. Chambers! I must apologise for disturbing you, but really I have come on a matter of important business," the stranger said, as he rose and bowed formally.

"What is the nature of your business, sir?" asked Mrs. Chambers, somewhat disconcerted by the man's manner.

"Can you give me Mr. Hugh Bexfield's present address?"

"Bexfield!" Mrs. Chambers said to herself, somewhat startled by the name. It was the name of the man who was Wylva Merriman's guardian Wylva had often spoken of him and invariably in a perplexed and fearful way, as if she mistrusted him. Only a week before Mrs. Chambers had received a letter from Wylva which was full of mystery. It told her of Wylva's being taken to Cape Town against her own wishes but by the will of Mr. Bexfield and under threats from him respecting the administration of her affairs if she disobeyed. The letter told, also, of her finding Mr. Branstein on board the steamer, and of the pressure which Mr. Bexfield was using to induce her to marry him.

"Yes, Madam; do you know Mr. Bexfield's present address?" asked the stranger again observing her hesitation.

"I do not. He is in Africa," answered Mrs. Chambers in surprise.

"In Africa!" exclaimed the stranger, astonished.

"Yes. he went with Miss Merriman on some business."

The stranger looked at Mrs. Chambers in amazement. She had turned his thoughts into a fresh channel.

"Miss Merriman! Is not that the lady who was to marry Lord Kilkerne?" he asked.

"Well; there was some talk of it but nothing came of it," Mrs. Chambers said, guardedly.

"Can you tell me whether this trip to South Africa concerns her marriage?" asked the stranger again.

"I should say it does. A gentleman went with them whom Mr. Bexfield would like her to marry."

"A gentleman! Can you tell me his name?"

"I think I have got it. I have had a letter from Miss Merriman in which I think she mentions it."

"I should be so much obliged if you would look and see."

"Yes. Excuse me a minute."

Mrs. Chambers went to the room in which she kept her letters in a little walnut Devonport. Unlocking one of the drawers she took out the letter she had received from Wylva. It had been written just before the steamer had reached Cape Town.

Mrs. Chambers read the parts of the letter which referred to Mr. Bexfield and Mr. Branstein, and then replaced the letter in the drawer and locked the Devonport again. Then she went back to the room in which she had left the stranger.

"The gentleman's name is Mr. Karl Branstein of Kimberley. I should think that is where they are going to," Mrs. Chambers said.

"And you really think Mr. Bexfield wishes Miss Merriman to marry this Mr. Branstein?"

"I think he does."

"Thank you Mrs. Chambers. If that is how matters stand we shall have to leave our business with Mr. Bexfield until he comes back," the stranger said, reflecting.

"I have not the pleasure of knowing your name or for what purpose you are making these inquiries," Mrs. Chambers said, with a questioning look at her visitor.

"My name is Mr. Finchley of 'Graythorn and Cross' We have some business on hand about which we should like to communicate with Mr. Bexfield, but if he is in Africa the matter must wait; that is certain. Still, I thank you for telling me. I will bid you good-morning, Mrs. Chambers."

"Good-morning," Mrs. Chambers said formally.

Mr. Finchley left the room and a moment later passed through the garden gate to the highroad. Walking leisurely until he was quite out of view of the house then he quickened his pace. In an hour he arrived hot and breathless at the station just in time to catch a train for town. Five minutes later he lay back in a first-class carriage in deep thought, while being whirled rapidly towards the city.

* * *

Lord Kilkerne was evidently much disturbed in mind. For half an hour he paced the floor of a room in his town house in Grosvenor-place, every now and then taking a sip from a glass of Rheinberg and anon glancing impatiently at the timepiece. His face was flushed, and his brow was contracted, and there was a haggard and disturbed look about him that told that he was ill at ease. He had glanced at the timepiece for fully the twentieth time when an electric bell rang sharply.

"Come in!" Lord Kilkerne called out sharply.

The door opened and a footman entered.

"A messenger has come from Graystones, your lordship," said the man

"Show him up immediately," Lord Kilkerne said hastily.

The man left the room. In three minutes the bell rang again.

"Come in," was Lord Kilkerne's sharp acknowledgment.

The door opened and Mr. Finchley entered.

"Hallo, Finchley, is that you. Why didn't you come up? What's the news? Any?"

"Yes, your lordship. I have learned everything."

"Well, how is it?"

Mr. Bexfield and Miss Merriman are in South Africa, at Kimberley or on the way there. They went with a Mr. Karl Branstein, the son of a diamond merchant of Kimberley. He had been in London and Mr. Bexfield got in with him—"

"Yes."

"On the voyage out, Mr. Bexfield pressed Miss Merriman to marry Mr. Branstein—"

"The infernal scoundrel."

"Yes. It was evidently an arranged thing that Branstein and Miss Merriman should meet on the steamer accidently as it were. There Bexfield got them together and did his best to get them to agree to marry."

"I suppose you did not hear whether they agreed."

"As far as I am able to learn they did not. Miss Merriman was not agreeable. Bexfield was furious and was doing all he could to get her to marry Branstein. There is some villiany at the bottom of it. He sees some money in it."

"The double-dyed scoundrel! Anything more?"

"That is all, your lordship. They are at Kimberley or on the way there. Bexfield evidently counted on Branstein and Miss Merriman marrying as soon as they arrived. He has gone himself to work the thing and to see it through."

"Curse his duplicity," gnashed Lord Kilkerne, as his brow lowered.

"That's all your lordship. That is the complete case."

"Very well. It is a piece of infernal roguery but I will stop it. That will do Finchley."

Mr. Finchley bowed and left the room.

Lord Kilkerne folded his hands behind him and began to pace the floor again. Suddenly he stopped.

"Yes, curse him. I'll follow him," he soliloquised. "If it is so I'll shoot him like a rat. If the girl is free I'll have her in spite of them all. I will hold him to the first bargain or shoot him over the second, the scheming, double-dyed scoundrel."

Lord Kilkerne decided that he would set out for South Africa by the first steamer and pursue Bexfield and spoil the scheme which he was trying to carry out and make a fresh attempt in that distant land to win Wylva Merriman for himself. If he found her legally chained to another he would then have his revenge on Bexfield by shooting him as a treacherous and double-dealing cur.

Two hours later with his plan fully matured, and with all arrangements made for carrying it out, Lord Kilkerne retired to his room to obtain a few hours rest.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Malcolm Cameron and Charlie Drayton reached Capetown, after a splendid run by the "Conway Castle." Their interest in the task they had undertaken was much heightened by the pleasure and stimulation of the sea voyage. They walked ashore at Capetown in a flush of chivalrous excitement by the thought that they had reached the country in which the girl was whom they were seeking, and eager to push on with their search. To their surprise they found their track as plain and direct as an English turnpike road. Within half an hour of landing they learned that Mr. Karl Branstein and a young and pretty English lady to whom he was to be married, and a Mr. Bexfield had arrived by steamer a few weeks before, and had gone direct to Kimberley. Malcolm and Charlie were able to verify this without difficulty, and in the course of their inquiries a grave and tormenting doubt was raised in Malcolm's mind. One of the officials at the railway booking-office asserted with the utmost assurance that the three who had gone on to Kimberley were Mr. Karl Branstein and a young English wife whom he had brought back with him, and a Mr. Bexfield who had acted as guardian to her.

Mr. Karl Branstein—and his wife! These words were like knives in the heart of Malcolm Cameron. Could it be that they were true, and that Wylva had really been forced into marriage with the man Branstein, a man whom she might positively have loathed?

There were two thoughts which brought consolation to Malcolm at this trying time. There was his own estimate of the strength of Wylva's character. To him she was a noble girl, and he could not have brought himself to tolerate a disparaging thought of her. And there was the letter which they received from her on reaching Capetown. In it she said plainly that she did not like Mr. Branstein, and would not marry him. Malcolm believed in her and trusted her with all the full and ardent confidence of a strong, manly nature.

They went on to Kimberley by the last train, eager to reach the town in which Wylva Merriman was said to be. At Beaufort West they had a long wait and sauntered about the place for more than an hour. Here again they heard it said that Mr. Karl Branstein and his new English wife had passed through on their way to Kimberley some weeks before This was common information, and not a doubt was cast upon the accuracy of it by a single word which Malcolm and Charlie heard.

"Don't worry yourself, old man. If she is married, she is married; they've forced her into it. We'll soon find out," said Charlie, seeing the cloud which hung over Malcolm's face, notwithstanding his strong faith in Wylva.

On again they went! How terribly slow the train went. How tame and uninteresting the veldt was, and how dreary the hills appeared! To Malcolm it was all dead monotony, for he was living in spirit in the presence of the one he loved, the girl who was said to be the wife of another man. On, on with maddening slowness, the fast train crawled, until at last, it seemed after ages, it shrieked into Kimberley.

"Oh yes! It was known all over the town. Karl Branstein the son of Rudolph Branstein, the diamond merchant, had gone to England six months before to see the country and to bring back an English wife. She was young and marvellously pretty and rich, and had a rich uncle—so the story ran—who had been her guardian; he had come to see her settled.

A young storekeeper who appeared to know more about the Bransteins than anyone else they met, offered to show Malcolm and Charlie the house. It was half a mile from his store, on a gentle slope, outside the town, he said.

They gladly accepted the offer. In half an hour they stood in the shade of a group of trees, gazing at the house in which lived the son of Kimberley's Diamond King, and in which Wylva was now said to live—his wife. It was a large and pleasant white house with a verandah at the back and front, and large windows at the end. Fifty yards in the rear was an orange grove, whilst from the front there was a clear view over the town and the far-reaching veldt beyond.

"Have you ever seen—her?" asked Malcolm of his guide.

"Mrs. Branstein?"

"Y—es," Malcolm could hardly utter a word.

(To be Continued.) 1410.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

EGG CUTLETS.

Six hard boiled eggs, one raw egg a handful of breadcrumbs, pepper and salt, and a little parsley, three tablespoonfuls of butter, and one cupful of broth in which a raw egg has been beaten. Cut the egg into thick slices, dip each slice in the beaten egg, and roll in breadcrumbs which should be seasoned with pepper, salt and parsley. Fry in the butter until a light brown, turn them from the fat directly they are done, put the broth over them boiling hot, and send to table.

Australia has 210 churches to every 100,000 people. England has 144 and Russia about fifty-five.

THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR.

Up above where the signal station is, and where no one, not even an officer in uniform, unless engaged on the works, is allowed to go, are the real fortifications. What looks like a rock is a monster gun, painted grey or a tree hides the mouth of another. And in this forbidden territory are great cannon, which are worked from the lowest ramparts. These are the present triumphs of Gibraltar. Before they came the clouds which shut out the sight of the Rock, as well as the rest of the world from its summit rendered the great pieces of artillery there as useless in bad weather, as they are harmless in times of peace. The very elements threatened to war against the English, and a shower of rain or a veering wind might have altered the fortunes of a battle. But a clever man named Watkins invented a position-finder by means of which those on the lowest ramparts, well out of the clouds, can aim the great guns on the summit at a vessel unseen by the gunners lost in the mist above, and by electricity fire a shot from a gun a half-mile above them so that it will strike an object many miles off at sea. It will be a strange sensation to the captain of such a vessel when he finds her bombarded by shells that belch forth from a drifting cloud.

The rock is undermined and tunnelled throughout, and food and provisions are stowed away in it to last a siege of seven years. Telephones and telegraphs, signal stations for flagging, search-lights, and other such devilish inventions, have been planted on every point, and only the Governor himself knows what other modern improvements have been introduced into the bowels of this mountain or distributed behind bits of landscape gardening on its surface.

It will never be attacked, for the reason that the American people are the only people clever enough to invent a way of taking it, and they are far too clever to attempt an impossible thing.—"The Rulers of the Mediterranean." By Richard Harding Davis.

A GOOD PARLOUR GAME.

A measuring contest makes a good game for an evening party. Procure an accurate yard stick, and if possible a reeled tape-line. Then if you do not wish the competition to be severe. fasten a foot-rule upon the wall, so that every one can see it. Next hand sheets of paper and pencils to the contestants.

Begin with the longer distances, and do not divide inches with these. If the door, for instance, is 84¾ inches high, call it 85; if 84¼ call it 84. As the different objects are called out each contestant judges its height or length, as the case may be and jots it down upon a slip of paper. Ask for the length of the room, the width, the height, the height of the doors, the windows, etc. all of which will be reckoned by feet or inches. according as one is accustomed, but must be put down in inches, for convenience, on the paper.

Coming to smaller objects it will be well to allow fractions of an inch to be included, at least quarters so that a bottle may be estimated to be 8¾ inches high, and a book 5¼. The following list of objects is merely suggestive.—

A teapot.
A candle in a candlestick.
A bottle.
Different sized books.
A glass and a tumbler.
A cup.
A lead pencil.
The diameter of a plate.
Pussy's height.
A thimble.
A spoon.
A knife.
A match.
A top hat.

When all the answers are written down and the slips signed and collected, begin the measuring. Two, at least, in the above-named list will prove very misleading—namely the teapot and the top hat. Even simpler objects, such as the match and lead pencil, will cause considerable trouble, and the great difference in some of these guesses will give great amusement.

Let there be prizes for the one who guesses the greatest number correctly. Second and booby prizes may be added if desired.

VERSES FOR RECITATION.

Johnny made a lot of snowballs.
Made them nice and round and hard,
Then upon a box he piled them In a
corner of the yard. Saying: "Wait
till Willie Watkins Comes around
this way again—Oh, I'll bet I'll
make him sorry He told teacher on
me then!"

Through the night they lay there
freezing, They became as hard as
rocks; In the morning Willie Watkins chanced to see them on the box
Johnny had not risen early, Johnny
was a sleepy-head; Willie Watkins
took the snowballs While their
maker lay in bed.

When at last the slothful Johnny
Sauntered outward through the
yard To prepare to batter Willie, He
was hit by something hard! More
than fourteen snowballs struck him
Ere he howling got away, Conscientiously believing, It was his unlucky day.

Thanks to thee, O lazy Johnny,
For the lesson thou hast taught!
Oft we labour hard preparing And
our efforts come to naught—Oft we
spend long years in getting Ready
to be great and grand, Just to fail
through being absent When it's time
to be on hand.

Swiss watches, according to a report just published, are becoming popular in China. Those with fantastic designs on the face find the most ready sale.

PLANT FOOD.

SOME INTERESTING INVESTIGATIONS.

"Harper's Magazine" has a very interesting article from the pen of Ray Stannard Baker. It deals with the researches of Professor Nobbe as to the growth of plants. Says the writer:—Tharanht, in Saxony, where Professor Nobbe has carried on his investigations for over thirty years, is a little village, set picturesquely among the Saxon Hills, some half hour's ride by railroad from the city of Dresdeo. Here is located the Forest Academy of the kingdom, with which Professor Nobbe is prominently connected, and here also is the agricultural experiment station of which he is the director. He has been for more than forty years the editor of one of the most important scientific publications in Germany, he is chairman of the Imperial Society of Agricultural Station Directors, and he has been the recipient of many honours. But the greatest of all his work is his remarkable discovery of a method for inoculating the soil with bacteria to make it yield richly where it has lain barren before. In times past investigators of soil and plant culture devoted their attention largely to studying the composition of various kinds of soil, to the improvement of fertilizers, and in suggesting new systems of drainage and water supply.

Professor Nobbe has gone a step further in advance, declaring that plants will grow, under fair conditions, just as well without soil as with soil. At first glance this may seem strange enough, yet here are trees, from eight to ten inches in circumference at the base of the trunk, growing in clean water without a sign of soil of any description They stand in rows just back of the Forest Academy and near Professor Nobbe's greenhouse. Each tree is suspended in a large glass jar surrounded by a green-painted case. When this case is opened one may look through the glass and see the roots of the tree hanging there in the clear water. The oldest of the trees was planted, or rather the seed was immersed in water, in 1878, and it has grown to full-size without even touching the soil. Leaves and blossoms have come in the spring, and in the winter the water and the roots have frozen solid all these years, and the tree still thrives. Indeed, some of its seeds were immersed in water, and trees of the second generation have been grown to considerable size. Then their seeds were immersed and there are now growing small trees three generations removed from the soil—certainly a clear proof of Professor Nobbe's assertion that actual contact with soil is not essential for plant life. In order to produce such results, however, it was necessary to keep the trees supplied with artificial food. This Professor Nobbe prepared in his laboratory—a certain definite amount of chlorate of potash sulphate of magnesium, phosphate of iron, phosphate of potassium, and a nitrate. A small quantity of this mixture was dissolved in the water of the jars every four weeks, and thus the trees have been kept flourishing all these years, showing that there was no element in the soil necessary to plant growth that man could not manufacture at will.

Nor was this all the experiment showed. Professor Nobbe knew to the last gramma how much food he had given to the plant through the water; he also knew that the water before adding the chemicals named was absolutely pure; yet when he came to analyze some of the plants thus grown, he found that they contained much greater quantities of various elements than he had supplied through the water. This constituted a proof positive that the plant drew largely upon the air for its nourishment, a fact well known to science, but not before positively and quantitatively demonstrated. The proportion of substance drawn from the air was found to be very large. It is said that of every one hundred pounds of wheat harvested from our fields barely one pound is drawn from the soil, the remainder coming from the free air and the water. And yet the effort to supply this one-hundredth of the plant's food has caused most of the wars and conflicts of the world, has led to the discovering and settling of new continents, and forms to-day the foundation of commerce and finance. As soon as science had convinced itself of the great truth that plants are fed largely from substances in the air, it began at once to study the problem as to how the plant is able to appropriate this aerial food. The chief chemical elements in all vegetable substances, are oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen. Added to these are small quantities of potassium, phosphorous iron, sulphur, magnesium, and calcium. Of all these elements the only ones about which there is any difficulty are nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorous. The others the plant obtains without difficulty, but the supply of nitrogen, especially, too often runs short. When land is said to be worn out, the meaning is that the supplies of nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous have been exhausted by too constant cropping, by taking away much from the soil and returning nothing to it.

Manure and fertilisers which are rich in these lacking elements, especially those which, like barnyard manure, are rich in nitrogen, are thus applied to the land, thereby restoring its producing capabilities Nitrogen is the all-important element. Potassium and phosphorous are usually present in abundance, or they can be easily supplied in the form of wood-ashes and other fertilisers but nitrogen is more expensive and more difficult to restore. Nitrogen is what makes the muscles and brain of a man: it is the essential element of all elements in the growth of all plants and animals; and significantly enough, it is also the chief constituent of the gunpowder and other explosives with which the wars of the world are waged. A single discharge of a 18-inch gun liberates enough nitrogen to produce many scores of bushels of wheat. This fact may become, in the future, a greater deterrent of war than we can now imagine. The failure of the nitrogen of the soil and the inability to supply it in sufficient quantities by artificial means has formed the basis of the predictions of coming starvation made by Sir William Crookes and others. Indeed, if the world ever starves it will be from lack of nitrogen; and yet if such starvation takes place it will be in a world full of nitrogen. For there is not one of the elements more common than nitrogen; not one present around us in larger quantities. Four-fifths of every breath of air we breathe is pure nitrogen—four-fifths of all the world's atmosphere is pure nitrogen. If mankind dies of nitrogen starvation, it will die with food everywhere about it and within it.

DIAMOND MINING.

Diamond mining at Kimberley is the subject of an illustrated article in the "Engineering Magizine," from which it appears that the ancient, laborious methods of sorting diamonds and washing by hand have been greatly improved, and now labour-saving machines do almost all the work. The methods of extracting diamonds are as follows:—The blue ground is taken from the depositing floors and hauled in 20 cubic-foot trucks by wire rope to the washing machines, where it is dumped automatically into hoppers, the bottoms of which are small revolving tables. Here the ground is divided and automatically conveyed by motor-driven belt conveyers into revolving cylinders. This automatic feeder not only divides the ground equally between the rotating washing machines, but regulates it regularly so that the machines cannot become over-charged, the result of which would be the loss of many diamonds. There is one of these cylinders for each section of the machine, each cylinder being capable of "sizing" 2,000 to 3,000 loads per day. After leaving the automatic feeders the ground is mixed with "puddle" a thick muddy water, which flows out of the washing pans, clear water being added constantly.

This mixture than flows into a revolving cylinder covered with perforated steel plates having holes 1½in. in diameter, all lumps larger than the holes passing out of the end of the cylinder, and being carried by a water-driven pan conveyer to crushing rolls for further treatment. That which goes through the holes of the screen is carried around by revolving arms with teeth, so that the diamonds and heavier matter pass to the outside, and the lighter matter flows out at a discharge in the inner rim; hence it goes through a screen, and is finally carried away by an endless chain of buckets to the waste heaps.

All the pans are fitted with patent extractors, by means of which the diamonds deposited are removed every two hours.

The entire gear is driven by means of three 228-volt electric motors. Suitable motors have been installed at various points, and the drives so arranged that one motor drives two pans. The coarse rolls and the fine rolls are also arranged to be driven by separate motors. The various conveyers, screening cylinders, etc., are motor driven. As a result of this treatment there is obtained what is called concentrated deposits or "concentrate." This concentrate is sent in covered locked trucks to what is known as the "pulsators," where it is divided into various sizes by passing through a cylinder covered with steel sieving with holes 1-16in. to ⅜in. in diameter. Through these five sizes of holes the stones fall and pass from the pulsators by means of conveyers to small hoppers located above mechanical sorters called "greasers," or grease tables.

SIR HIRAM MAXIM'S LATEST.

It is stated that Sir Hiram Maxim is to furnish the scientific novelty of the year. He is working at it in strict secrecy at his house in the London suburbs, where the new invention has been constructed and erected in his front garden. The idea embodies the aerial railway and airship principles. First there is a mighty tripod of steel as high as a house. From this rises a steel column half as high again. The upright is the bases of a framework like the inverted mechanism of an enormous umbrella. From the upper and outer extremities of the "ribe" depend rods of steel, to which are attached the airships.

The whole framework revolves at a prodigious pace around the standard and the boats swinging outward suggests the strangest sensations for passengers. The boats themselves have torpedo-shaped prows.

The whole structure is to be removed piecemeal to the Crystal Palace, and there set up as the chief open-air attraction of the summer. The price paid by the Palace Company is, it is understood locally, £10,000. Hundreds of people gather daily in the streets to catch from various vantage grounds, a glimpse of the monster in full blast.

NOT MUCH GOOD TO TAKE.

A little boy was told at Sunday-school that when he died he would leave his body on earth. After returning home he was much troubled in regard to it, and questioned his parents. His mother explained by saying:

"You will take all the good with you and leave all that is naughty here below."

The boy thought for a minute, then looking up said:

"Well, I'll be awfully thin when I get there."

SOME POINTS OF ETIQUETTE.

Do not leave your spoon in your teacup.

Crack the top of your egg instead of peeling it.

If you have bacon or fish have a separate plate for your bread or toast and butter, but not when having only boiled eggs, which require very careful eating, by the way, as nothing offends the eye more than to see the yolk of egg spilled all over the plate and egg-cup.

Do not sip your tea or coffee with a spoon. Do not drain the cup.

For fish do not use a dessert knife instead of a fish knife. If there be no fish knife, use a small crust of your bread. but leave that crust of bread on your plate. Do not eat it afterwards, as so many people do.

Do not be dainty and fringe your plate with bits of meat. Eat what you can, and put any skin or bone on the edge of your plate in one little heap, which move down from the edge when you have finished.

Do not crumple up your table napkin. If you are only a guest for the day do not fold it up. Just place it on the table when you leave as in rich establishments there are clean table napkins every meal.

After eating, it is well before you drink to w[illegible] your lips, otherwise you leave [illegible] smeary mark in the glass.

Do not [illegible]s, and bolt food

Do n[illegible] or swallow audibly. Do [illegible]le your bread by your side, [illegible]in your glass to the last d[illegible]

Do not sop bread in your gravy, or break it in tea, coffee or soup.

Do not pile your plate with food, or grasp your knife, fork or spoon as if it were a weapon of warfare.

TREES AND MOISTURE.

A single oak of good size is said to lift 123 tons of water during the months it is in leaf. This moisture is evaporated, and rises to form rain clouds. All the trees are busy doing the same thing, and the rank ferns and mosses and deep mould of the forest depths, acting as reservoirs for the rain which falls upon them, in their turn feed the springs and brooks. From this estimate of the labour of a single oak we can gain some idea of that immense force which the forests exert in equalising the evaporating and precipitation and preventing periods of inundation and drought.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The lifeboats around the British coast during the last year rescued 680 people.

More steel is used in the manufacture of pens than in all the sword and gun factories in the world.

Florian's Cafe, one of the most popular restaurants in Venice, has never been closed, day or night, for over four hundred years.

At the age of fifty a person usually begins to decrease in stature and at the age of eighty he has lost about one and a half inches.

Austrian cotton mills use about 318,000,000 pounds of cotton a year, two-thirds of which is American.

America is now exporting about £2,000,000 worth of shoes a year, of which Great Britain gets one-third.

In Germany working men are visited at their homes on paydays by saving bank officials, to collect their savings for banking.

A new cartridge devised for the French army will propel a bullet half a mile without any perceptible rise or fall.

A teacher of singing declares that a two months' course of proper breathing exercise should increase the circumference of the chest two or three inches.

It is strange that the right hand, which is more sensitive to the touch than the left, is less sensitive than the latter to the effect of heat or cold.

In Turkey the house a man lives in cannot be seized for debt, and sufficient land must be left to serve to support him.

Denmark, which produces an immense quantity of butter, has an average of one cow for every two inhabitants.

More than one-fourth of the inhabitants of Newfoundland are engaged in catching and curing fish for a livelihood.

In Germany the annual consumption of iron per capitum is 168lb; and the production just double that amount.

A silkworm's thread is one five-thousandth of an inch in diameter; that of the spider one thirty-thousandth.

An authority on the subject declares that many cases of defective eyesight are caused by wearing tight collars, which interfere with the circulation of blood to the head.

Every educated Russian knows three languages beside his own, and many of them four. Knowledge of the French, English and German languages is considered necessary to culture. A iamily having small children employs three or four governesses, from whom the children learn foreign tongues before they are taught the more difficult Russian. This command of languages makes possible the fact that Russians have a better knowledge of the world's affairs than any other people. 1410.

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Troy and party—Blocked out all
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Erected whim; waiting for timber
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Sons of Freedom Central.—Three
blocking and truck-roading in No.
and two parties blocking in No. 4
ground of average quality. Yield
week, 102oz. 15dwt.

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A letter will be found hereunder from
players of Central resigning, and
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unsportmanlike action.

The letter was signed by Frank
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disapproval of the way in which the Ce
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inform you that we have to-day hande
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The secretary of the Beaufort Club
since received a letter from the Ce
Club, stating that they will pay
expenses that the Beaufort Club were
to, and agreeing to play a match at a
future time.

Snake Valley.

A pony harnessed to a gig,
property of the Rev. J. S. Drumm
whilst tied to a fence at Snake Val
became unfastened, and bolted. A
careering for about three miles,
runaway carried away the veranda
front of Mrs J. Edwards' shop. It
eventually captured under the p
office verandah. The gig was ba
broken up.

A rather peculiar method of sh
stealing has come to the knowledge
the Snake Valley police. About a f
night ago the skin and entrails o
sheep were found in a paddock on
Jas. Russell's Carngham Estate, and
Sunday last the skin, head and entr
of two more sheep were found in ano
paddock on the same estate. In b
cases the carcases were missing.
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not to retain any part of the sheep t
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the skins. The workmanlike man
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A dividend of 1s per share is declared payable to Sons of Freedom Central shareholders on Thursday, 30th inst., making a total of 17s 6d per share.

The application of W. Dickman (Golden Point G.M. Dredging Co.) for a mining lease of 48a. 2r. 7p., parish of Beaufort, excising the area surrounding the grave and the dam, has been granted.

The postponed sale of shares in the Barton Quartz Co., Beaufort, forfeited for non-payment of 10th call of 2d per share, is announced for Monday, 20th inst., at 12.30 p.m., at the Ballarat Mining Exchange.

The postponed sale of shares in the Sons of Freedom Junction G.M. Co., Raglan, forfeited for non-payment of the 12th call of 4d per share, will take place at the Mining Exchange, Ballarat, on Tuesday next, at 12.30 p.m.

All Nations Consols, Beaufort.—D. F. Troy and party—Blocked out all the payable ground. Will commence sinking the shaft next week to work the wash at a deeper level. Yield, 35oz. 8dwts., including 20oz. from machine bottoms. Grant and party—Driving and crosscutting in the south end in improved wash. Yield, 2 z. 16½dwts. Adamthwaite and party—Erected whim; waiting for timber to sink. Yield, 1oz. 5½dwts. Morris and party—Erected whip, and sunk shaft to 27 feet; now in good clay. Full yield, 39oz. 10dwts.

Barton Quartz Co.—Shaft sunk to 62½ft. below the No. 1 level; water increased to 320 gallons per hour.

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Sons of Freedom Central.—Three parties blocking and truck-roading in No. 5 rise, and two parties blocking in No. 4 rise, in ground of average quality. Yield for the week, 102oz. 15dwt.

Sons of Freedom Junction, Raglan.—No. 2 and No. 3 boilers built in; all brick work completed; contractors putting up housing.

Daughters of Freedom.—Yield for week, 5oz. 10dwt.

The following are the reported local yields for the week ending Saturday last:—Sons of Freedom Central, 102oz. 5dwt.; All Nations Consols—Troy and party's No. 1 tribute, 18oz. 14dwt.; Grant and party's No. 2 tribute, 4oz.; Sam Slick—Jaensch and party, No. 1 tribute, 17oz. 10½dwt.; Daughters of Freedom, 5oz. 10dwt.; Last Chance, 4oz.; Stevens and party, 9oz. 16dwt. 13gr.; sundries, 10oz.

Football.

On Saturday last the Beaufort and Ballarat Central clubs were to have met in the Beaufort Park in a friendly game of football, but the Beaufort club were disappointed at the last moment, receiving a wire from the secretary of the Central club about midday to the effect that it was impossible to get a team. The visitors were to have been entertained at dinner on their arrival. However, several of the local players attended at the Commercial Hotel to partake of the good things; Mrs Hellyer having gone to a lot of trouble in providing an excellent dinner. The sporting public of Beaufort and district were also very much disappointed, as it was considered that the match would have been a good one, and well worth witnessing.

BEAUFORT v. CENTRAL.

The following report appeared in last Saturday's *Sporting World*:—The above match was to have been played to-day at Beaufort, and up till a very late hour everything promised for an enjoyable time. The Beaufort Club's secretary and committee had gone to the trouble and expense of preparing a dinner for the visitors upon their arrival from Ballarat, and also engaging Mr W. A. McKinnon, from Ballarat, to officiate as umpire. This morning quite a different aspect was put upon affairs, for when the time of departure arrived, there were but four players of the Central team at the station. A wire was sent at a quarter to twelve o'clock stating that it was impossible to get a team. There can be no excuse from the players of the Central Club, for if it was not intended to keep the engagement a wire could have been sent on Friday night. The old excuse of "missing the train" will not wash in this instance, for the departure of the train was a quarter of an hour late. A letter will be found hereunder from two players of Central resigning, and it is probable more will be heard of this unsportmanlike action.

The letter was signed by Frank and Lloyd Brind, and stated:—"To show our disapproval of the way in which the Central F.C. treated the Beaufort F.C., we beg to inform you that we have to-day handed in our resignation to the sec. of the Central."

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Snake Valley.

A pony harnessed to a gig, the property of the Rev. J. S. Drummond, whilst tied to a fence at Snake Valley, became unfastened, and bolted. After careering for about three miles, the runaway carried away the verandah in front of Mrs J. Edwards' shop. It was eventually captured under the post-office verandah. The gig was badly broken up.

A rather peculiar method of sheep stealing has come to the knowledge of the Snake Valley police. About a fortnight ago the skin and entrails of a sheep were found in a paddock on Mr Jas. Russell's Carngham Estate, and on Sunday last the skin, head and entrails of two more sheep were found in another paddock on the same estate. In both cases the carcases were missing. The thief or thieves evidently were careful not to retain any part of the sheep that could be identified, hence the leaving of the skins. The workmanlike manner in which the sheep were flayed points to the fact that no amateur in sheep killing was concerned.

Proposals have been made from time to time for the abolition of the mining boards, but, so far, they have been defeated by the friends of the boards. The Government proposes to make another attempt to abolish them under their Mining Bill. The Premier says abolition will mean a saving of £4000 a year.

WOMAN'S WORLD.

FAMILY LOVE.

Love of the family is the very basis of society and of civilisation. The early progress of man from a brutish and savage state to highly-organised society, so far as it can be traced or inferred, came through the knitting together ever more closely of parents and children, then through the growth of the clan which became necessary to protect the families from others. The great importance of the clan was in time recognised, and the selfish interests of the individual had to give way to a certain extent to the interests of the clan. His conduct was guided by that fact, and the clan enlisted his loyalty and affection. These are the beginnings of patriotism, and thus the very savage worked out for himself the principle that he had to sacrifice some of his own primeval individual selfishness for the good of others, or, as we should say, of society, with which individual interests are indissolubly bound up. In yielding up something of his own the "germs of altruism and of morality" found root; an external standard of conduct was established, and altruism was developed with the development of civilisation and of society.

THE STORY OF A GREEN PARROT.

A woman in a Broadway car the other day carried a pasteboard box which she held carefully in her lap. Little holes were punched in it, but otherwise there was nothing unusual about it. It was just a plain, ordinary paper box. At least it was for about five minutes after she entered the car. Then one corner of the box began to shown signs of collapse. There was a crunching sound, the pasteboard was twisted and wrenched, and suddenly the head of a parrot shot up into view.

"Hello!" said Polly, and then came a triumphant crow.

The woman looked confused and the passengers were startled. The parrot was so tickled at having chewed off one corner of his prison that he crowed, chuckled, laughed, and shouted in great glee, and there was a lively excitement among the passengers.

The owner of the parrot was blushing furiously by this time, but Polly didn't mind that a bit. Then another woman, who had taken a keen interest in the proceedings, changed her seat to one beside the owner of the parrot.

"I own one myself," she said, "and I couldn't resist coming over to talk to yours."

The other woman seeemed grateful for her new ally, and the parrot babbled away at a tremendous rate until his owner got up to leave the car. Polly ducked his head back into the box then, but when the woman had reached the door the green head and throat popped into view again.

"Good-bye," screamed the talking bird, and everybody roared.

NEVER GROWS OLD.

A certain amount of social life is absolutely essential to all of us, to the old as well as to the young. A woman never grows so old that she ceases to enjoy the company of others, and generally the older she grows the more she enjoys it. It is always a pity to see a man fall into a state which he explains by saying: "Oh, we're getting old, and don't care for so much variety in our lives." In the pure selfishness of his soul he always speaks of "us" and "we" as if it naturally follows that because he is getting antiquated, his wife must keep pace with him in his decline. Men all too often make their wives too old. It is a greater credit to a husband to keep his wife young than to make her grow old. His actions and his habits necessarily influence those of his wife. Let him keep in touch with the world, and both he and his wife will be the better and the younger for it.

PARENTS MAY NOTE.

"I sometimes think," remarked a lady with much experience of the younger generation, "that children, however wayward and disobedient, are generally more sinned against than sinning.

"How often the little folk are harshly reproved for restlessness or the desire to gambol and frolic, when they are all the time simply obeying the impulse they receive from Nature to develop their limbs by exercise.

"Then there is the question of sweetmeats. In many households the child's love of sweets is regarded as a sensual appetite to be rigorously kept down. And yet the poor little creature may be merely yielding to a natural craving for sugar as heat-producing food. Here again Nature is misunderstood and thwarted in the person of the child.

"But the cruellest cases (to my mind) are those where small children are made to tax their feeble brains with studies for which they have a thorough distaste. Dunces and dullards they are called, simply because their delicate nervous systems are too undeveloped to undergo the strain of learning. Too often the dislike to lessons arises from purely natural causes of this kind. Sometimes the child's sight is weak, and it finds the poring over printed letters painful. In any case, the true cause of a child's unwillingness to learn should be carefully investigated."

THE GOOD-TEMPERED WIFE.

A man in Sussex whose wife was blessed with a remarkably even temper went over the way to a neighbour one evening, and said:

"Neighbour, I should just like to see my wife cross for once. I've tried all I know, and I can't make her cross no way."

"You can't make your wife cross?" said his neighbour. "I wish I could make mine anything else. But you just do what I tell you, and if that won't act nothing will. You will bring her in one night a lot of the crookedest pieces of wood you can get, them as won't lie in no form, and see how she makes out then."

The pieces of wood were accordingly brought in, as awkward and crooked and contrary as could be found. The man went away early to work, and at noon returned to see the result of his experiment. He was greeted with a smiling face and the gentle request:

"Tom, do bring me in some more of those crooked blocks if you can find them, they do just clip round the kettle nicely."

When making pies with a bottom crust, if you wish to prevent the gravy soaking through it, brush it over well with beaten egg on the inside.

Instead of keeping parsley in water, which oftens turns it yellow, put it in an air-tight jar in a cool place. This will keep it fresh for some time.

As the Lands Department officials find that many lessees in good positions take advantage of the "poor farmer" cry, and are very much in arrears with their rent, the Minister has ordered that special land boards shall be held to enquire into their cases without delay. Unless they can show that they are unable to pay, their leases will be forfeited.

Forestry seems to have been very much neglected in Victoria when we find out what is being done in other countries and the magnitude of the interests involved. Germany's annual gross receipts from the sale of timber amount to £21,500,000 and the British Empire imports over £30,000,000 worth. Victoria's miserable record of £7000 timber export is eloquent of our lost opportunities. Another almost incredible fact is that in Victoria, although we have a Forest Department, no proper organised efforts are being made to train the officers in a knowledge of forestry.

The signs of a Federal political crisis have once more (remarks the "Age") disappeared beneath the surface. Mr Reid did not arrive in Melbourne on Wednesday as expected, and it is now stated that he is not likely to come this week. To all appearances the free-trade coalitionist has decided to hibernate politically for an indefinite period, leaving Mr Dugald Thomson to carry the flag in the Federal Parliament.

The most commonly accepted theory of the origin of the Australasian natives is that they were originally a negroid race, of which the Tasmanians are the only historic representatives. Australia was invaded by a race of black Caucassians, who intermixed with the negroid occupants, and the Australian aborigines were the offspring of this mixture.—Professor Gregory.

HERE!

IN NORTH MELBOURNE.

A Good Case in Point.

The Case of Miss M. O'CONNELL.

(By a Local Reporter.)

Each resident who delights to hear of grand achievements will be deeply interested in this statement, which should also prove to be an object of earnest hope concerning work they may require to accomplish in the future. It is a matter discussed in the business premises of Miss Mary O'Connell, 45 Leveson-street, North Melbourne, who remarked:—

"A niece of mine was once very ill, and everything pointed to the probability of things going very hard with her because all the medical treatment she had was of no avail. We did not know what on earth to do next, but one day, owing to a book being put into my shop, the matter was decided, for I read in the book what Clements Tonic had done for others. I got some for my niece, who was frightfully feeble, and in a few weeks she was as strong and as happy as any girl in the city."

"You have never required to use that medicine yourself then?"

"My word, haven't I? It is two years since I treated myself with it, owing to the way it restored my relative, and I was awfully bad at the time, too. If I exerted myself in the least I felt soon afterwards as if I was going to collapse, and, truth to tell, many a time I did, for I used to faint right off sometimes. I did not care to eat, or work, or anything. Indeed, I had no strength to enable me to do what had to be done, and as for taking food—well, how could I when I had no appetite? It was useless trying to most days, but even when I succeeded in eating a little I was no better off, because it gave me such violent pains afterwards."

"Where did you experience them mostly?"

"Oh, dear, my stomach used to get quite distended with wind, and the agony I was in for the next hour or so was something dreadful. The pressure of my clothes was even too great for me, and the pain was not content to be there, for it flew to my chest, and I was also affected in a like manner between the shoulder blades, at night especially if I laid on my right side. And all this time, you must remember, I had my business to look after, which meant that on three mornings a week I was obliged to go to market early, but it nearly killed me to do it."

"You would find it a great tax on your strength, I've no doubt."

"On my strength! Why, I had not got any, and that was where the trouble came in; but still I struggled on as long as I could, and then, when I was about to give up altogether, I bethought myself of Clements Tonic and thus saved caving in entirely. Long before this, however, I had suffered untold tortures with aching sensations in my head, and I could scarcely move without getting so giddy that for a while everything went black before me, as, indeed, was often the case because my sight got terribly dull, and then as I arose from each night's restlessness my mouth had a bitter taste and the coating on my tongue was so thick that it could be scraped off. Yes, my internal organs were in a bad state, to be sure, and if I were not thankful to Clements Tonic for the great good it did me I would be a very ungrateful woman indeed. At one time I had been all aches and weariness, but a course of Clements Tonic substituted ease and energy, together with an appetite such as I had not enjoyed for years. I was never so astounded in all my life as I was when I had taken Clements Tonic about three weeks, for by that time the fainting attacks had entirely stopped, and the pains in my head, stomach, and about the back were altogether in abeyance. Really, it was lovely to be so free from my former torments, and all the time I was getting stronger and stronger, till at length I was as well as ever I could possibly wish to be, and all through Clements Tonic."

"That is why you give it such unstinted praise?"

"That is the reason, for it thoroughly cured me of my complaints, and I'm sure it will do the same for other people. Anyhow, you can publish my statement in any style you like."

STATUTORY DECLARATION.

I, MARY O'CONNELL, of No. 45 Leveson-street, North Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of four folios, and contained in twenty-one paragraphs numbered from one to four, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish in any manner my statements—which I give voluntarily, and without receiving any payment; and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act of the Parliament of Victoria rendering persons making a false declaration punishable for wilful and corrupt perjury.

Mary O'Connell

Declared at North Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, this 17th day of January, 1904, before me, J. BARWISE, J.P., a Justice of the Peace in and for the Central Bailiwick of the State of Victoria.

NATURE NEVER FORGIVES.

PAYMENT ALWAYS EXACTED WITH INTEREST.

Is it wise to tamper with one's health by neglecting nature's dictates, wearing water-logged or paper mache boots, porous mackintoshes, or thin garments, going without warm comfortable clothing

WHEN WE OFFER

Such values, and give such good terms for payment, that are unexcelled in the State?

TAKE BOOTS.

We are the sole retailers of Hugh Thomson & Son's grand Foot-wear. Solid Leather; wear like iron; absolutely the best Colonial Boots made.

THEN "MACS."

The only thing cheap about our Mackintoshes is the price. We buy direct from the manufacturers, so that we can thus retail them to our customers at Wholesale Price. Prices, 10s 6d, 12s 6d, and 21s up.

AND MANTLES.

We have just unpacked a special consignment of Ladies' Jackets; extraordinary value; latest German Manufacture, 6s 11d, 10s 6d, 13s 6d, 17s 6d. See our Windows.

AND CLOTHING

for Gent's and Boys. We have a grand selection, stylish English cut, something out of the common, with no slop cuts—all at prices that speak aloud for themselves.

Yours for Sound Solid Goods,

J. R. WOTHERSPOON & CO.,

BEAUFORT.

A workman named Berger has been arrested at Berlin on the charge of committing the three recent murders in a manner similar to those perpetrated by "Jack the Ripper." The victims were women of the unfortunate class.

The amount of income tax paid so far this financial year is £268,842. The estimate of Mr Irvine, the then Treasurer, in October last, was £300,000. A fortnight now only remains within which to collect the balance of £31,156 if the estimate is to be realised. It may be taken for granted that if that sum is owing Mr Prout Webb will, if possible, get it in before the end of the month.

What may happen to a man in Australia has been demonstrated in the career of Prime Minister Watson. The son of a poor sailor, he had to help find bread and dripping for the family when he was 10 years old, put his hand to anything honest that was going as he grew older, learnt the trade of a compositor, and for a time when work was scarce looked after ex-Governor Carrington's horses in Sydney. As a contrast, he was the other day the principal guest at the dinner table of the Governor-General of the Cmomonwealth of Australia! He is also entitled to a salary of at least two thousand pounds a year, to the service of quite an army of highly paid civil servants, and is to-day the most prominent personage on this great continent. Reads like a romance, doesn't it, and also reminds us of the story of Dick Whittington, which charmed most of us in our young days. Again, writes "Free Lance," what may happen to a man in Australia? For answer, turn to Watson, the Democrat.

Mr Bent, the Premier, stated yesterday that the first measures to be introduced in succession by the Government when the session opens on the 29th inst., will be:—The Closer Settlement Bill, Water Bill, Mines Bill, Income Tax Reduction Bill, and the Surplus Revenue Bill.

N. R.

Application for a Gold Mining Lease.

IT is intended to grant the undermentioned lease, subject to such excisions, modifications, and reservations as may be necessary.

ARARAT DISTRICT, RAGLAN DIVISION.—No. 1923; W. Dickman ("Golden Point G.M. Dredging Co."); 48a. 2r. 7p.; parish of Beaufort; excising the area surrounding the grave and the dam.

D. McLEOD,
Minister of Mines.

Melbourne, 2nd June, 1904.

Grazing Lands.

TENDERS will be received by the Board of Land and Works, up to noon of Wednesday, the 29th June, 1904, for the right to graze on the undermentioned land from the 1st July, 1904, to the 30th June, 1905. The fee for above period and fee for licence must accompany each tender. Tender forms and full particulars may be obtained at the local Land Office.

Lot 40. Block (No. 8268).—16 acres, the Water reserve along the creek between allotments 39A¹, 39A, and 39B, parish of Trawalla, recently licensed to Arthur West.

JOHN MURRAY,
Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey.

SONS OF FREEDOM CENTRAL GOLD MINING COMPANY, No Liability, Raglan.—Notice.—A DIVIDEND (No. 27) of One Shilling per Share has been declared in the above company, payable to registered shareholders, at the office of the company, on Thursday, 30th June, 1904.

J. H. CUNNINGHAM, Manager.

No 7 Lydiard-street, Ballarat.

N.B.—Transfer books close on Thursday, 23rd June, 1904, until after date of payment of dividend.

SONS OF FREEDOM JUNCTION GOLD MINING COMPANY, No Liability, Beaufort.—The POSTPONED SALE of SHARES forfeited for non-payment of the 12th call of fourpence (4d.) per share, will take place at the Mining Exchange, Ballarat, on Tuesday, 21st June, 1904, at 12.30 o'clock p.m., unless calls be previously paid.

A. J. PEACOCK, Manager.

Lydiard-street, Ballarat.

FOR SALE, WOOLPRESS (Humble & Nicholson), in first-class order. Apply to A. MATHEWSON, Manager, Mooramong, Skipton.

MONDAY, 20th JUNE, 1904.

POSTPONED SALE.

BARTON QUARTZ COMPANY, No Liability.—Notice.—The undermentioned shares, forfeited for non-payment of 10th call of twopence (2d.) per share, will be sold by public auction, at Mining Exchange, Lydiard-street, Ballarat, on Monday, 20th June, 1904, at 12.30 p.m.:—Nos. 1 to 24,000, exclusive of those upon which said call has been paid.

J. A. CHALK, Manager.

28 Lydiard-street, Ballarat.

L. BRAVO,

Hairdresser and Tobacconist,

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.

Begs to notify the public of Beaufort and district that he has commenced Business, and hopes by strict attention to business to receive a fair share of public patronage.

SHAVING, 3d.; HAIRCUTTING, 6d.
CHILDREN, 3d.

A Good Assortment of PIPES, TOBACCO, and CIGARS kept in Stock.

A trial solicited. Satisfaction guaranteed.

LAND SELECTION.

BEAUFORT COMMON.

MAY, 1904.

To Lease-holders, Land-owners, and Others.

HAWKES BROS.

Beg to notify having made very special arrangements for a large supply of

FENCING MATERIALS,

Including an Extra Big Stock of

BEST GERMAN BLACK FENCE WIRE,

No. 8, at 10s per cwt. Net Cash.
Ton Lots, £9 15s per ton.

This is an Extra Low Price, and takes effect for this month only.

GALVANISED WIRE NETTING,

In all widths, gauges, and meshes. A few examples—36in. x 1½in. x 18g., at 19s 6d coil (100 yds.); 36in. x 1½in. x 17g., at 24s 6d; 42 x 1½in. x 18g., 24s 6d. Special Quotations for Quantities.

GALVANISED FENCING WIRE, No. 8, 13s; No. 10, 14s cwt.
do. BARB WIRE, No. 12 (440yds.), 17s; No. 14 (700yds.), 19s.
LACING WIRE, FENCE DROPPERS (Wood and Steel), STAPLES, NETTING FASTENERS, and all other Requisites at Lowest Current Rates.

BUILDING MATERIALS.

Large Stocks of Hardwood, Pine Weatherboards, T. and G. Flooring, Doors, Sashes, Lime, Cement. Prices on Application.

FURNITURE.

Direct from makers, to suit all purses. Inspect Show Rooms.

District CASH BUYERS of GRAIN, in any quantity.
Also on hand CHAFF, OATS, BRAN, and POLLARD, at Lowest Rates.
A Special Line of FOWL'S WHEAT at 10s Bag.

NOTE ADDRESS—

HAWKES BROS.,

MERCHANTS,
Neill Street, BEAUFORT.

NOTICE TO FARMERS.

DIXON BROS.,

Stock Station, Grain and Commission Agents, Valuators, and Export Produce Merchants,

Wish to notify the farmers of the surrounding district that they have leased the premises lately occupied by Mr. J. Cuthbertson as Steam Chaff Mills,

OPPOSITE CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.

MONTHLY STOCK SALES

WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THEIR AUCTIONEER, Mr. W. H. HALPIN, EVERY THIRD THURSDAY. SEVENTH SALE, THURSDAY, JUNE 20th, 1904. Good yarding advised.

Sales Conducted in any part of the State. Entries received by Mr. R. G. KIRKPATRICK, Local Agent, or Mr. Hill, Camp Hotel.

For PRIVATE SALE, Single-seated ABBOTT BUGGY, two WAGGONETTES, and a second-hand DOUBLE AND TREBLE FURROW PLOUGH. Several FARMS in GEELONG district for SALE or LEASE.

Horse Rugs, Tarpaulins, Water Bags, and Coach Buggy Rugs a speciality.

Agents for Mitchell's Agricultural Implements, Wood's New Century Binder, also agents for the famous Barger Discs.

DIXON BROS., Lawrence Street, BEAUFORT.

HUNGRY FOR A HAND-SHAKE.

He was sitting in a park. He looked down-hearted and despondent. His clothes were dusty, but not ragged. There was a look of despair on his boyish face—almost a look of desperation. Someone noticing his despondent look sat down by him, saying:

"I judge you are a stranger in the city; I want to shake hands with you."

A bright look came into the young man's face, and he eagerly held out his hand.

"Oh!" he said, "I am so hungry for a hand-shake! I left my home about a week ago with the prayers and best wishes of my friends. Times were hard, and it seemed necessary for me to go into the world to make a living for myself. I supposed there were lots of work for me in this city; but I don't think there is anything, and I am discouraged."

He bit his lip hard as he said this, and his mouth quivered.

"I will try again," he went on to say, "since someone cares enough for me to shake hands with me."

The hand-shake was the beginning of his success. Down-hearted and discouraged before, feeling that there was no one who cared for him in the great city, his heart was made glad by that simple thing—a hand-shake; and he took courage and soon found employment.

There are people on every side of us perhaps not in these exact circumstances, but who are discouraged and depressed, who need a hand-shake, a friendly word, a kindly interest.

HOW GIRLS CAN HELP THEIR MOTHERS.

Every girl, if she be not thoroughly selfish, is anxious to lift some of the burden of household management from her mother's shoulders on to her own; but, unfortunately, many girls wait to be asked to do things instead of being constantly on the look-out for little duties which they are capable of doing.

If you would be of any real use in the home you must be quick to notice what is wanted—the room that needs dusting, the flowers which require rearranging, the curtain which has lost a ring and is therefore drooping. And then you must not only be willing to do what is needed, but willing to do it pleasantly, without making people feel that you are being martyred.

It is almost useless to take up any household duties unless you do them regularly. If you do a thing one day and not the next, you can never be depended on, and if someone else has to be constantly reminding you of and supervising your work, it probably gives that person more trouble than doing it herself would cause.

Have a definite day and a definite time for all you do—the flower vases will need attention every other day, the silver must be cleaned once a week, and there should be one day kept for mending and putting away the household linen. Begin, too, directly after breakfast, and keep on steadily till your work is done.

AN INVITATION TO DINNER.

The specimen below of Moorish epistolary style which comes from Mr. Budgett Meakin's recent book, "The Moors," and is merely an invitation to dinner, is calculated to make the imaginative resources of the English entertainer, who writes on a visiting card, "Come and dine," look small indeed.

"To my gracious master, my respected lord:

"This evening, please God, when the king of the army of stars, the sun of the worlds, will turn toward the realm of shades and place his foot in the stirrup of speed, thou art besought to lighten us with the dazzling rays of thy face, rivalled only by the sun. Thy arrival, like a spring breeze, will dissipate the dark night of solitude and isolation."

HEALTH NOTES.

Deodorizers are well enough in their way but it's generally better to keep things clean than to have a disagreeable odor to destroy. Fresh air and hot water will be all that are needed in most cases.

By the recent action of the Treasury Department of the United States, no more consumptive immigrants will be received in that country. This is expected to bring about a large decrease in immigration, and it may also affect the cabin passenger traffic, as the order has been interpreted to bar all aliens thus afflicted.

Keep all your poisonous mixtures used for spraying away from children and valuable animals. Too much care cannot be used when handling poison.

The great engineer of the Suez Canal stated that he could not have built that great work with meat-eaters for labourers, because they could not endure the climate. The date and barley-eating Arabs, on the contrary, stood the strain all right, and were able to do the most exacting work without difficulty. This experience made M. Ferdinand De Lesseps a vegetarian from that time to the day of his death.

There is a navvy in Glasgow who is possessed of a great sense of humour. Perhaps it's because he's an Irishman. Pat has been disturbed several times in his single apartment off the Cowcaddens by a well-meaning lady missionary.

Seeing Pat was rather an exemplary sort of a husband, she suggested that he might be able to afford a room and kitchen soon.

"An' phwat wad Oi want lavin' such a comfortable house as this for?" asked Pat.

"Well," she replied, "you would have more room—more conveniences."

"Convaniences is it?" said Pat, with a smile.

"Sure, an' at prisint, if Oi want to go to the drawin'-room, or the dinin'-room, or the conservatory, begorra, Oi've just got to sit still. Phwat could be handier?"

The lady couldn't say.

He: "What proof have I that you really love me?"

She: "Proof! Did I not dance with you at the Astorbilt ball?"

"Yes; but I don't consider that any proof of affection."

"You would if you knew how badly you dance."

"Did you ever try any of those health foods?" the sympathetic friend asked of the dyspeptic lady.

"Yes," she replied, "and I am not going to eat any more of them."

"Why not?"

"Because they spoil my appetite."

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

Does your head ache? Are you constipated and feel dull or depressed after eating? You are suffering from indigestion and are paving the way for more serious illness. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets are just what need. They will assist the digestion, regulate the bowels and give you new strength and vigor. For sale by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co. Merchants, Beaufort.

COUNTING THE COST.

In home management there is immense wisdom in counting the cost before we indulge in too many luxuries. Parents who can deny their children nothing, sybarites who can never say no to themselves; careless housewives who do not practice frugality are apt to come to ship-wreck through their remissness in not counting the cost. Far better to wear a shabby coat or a faded gown that to be hampered and handicapped by the expense of a new one which cannot readily be paid for.

Far better eat plain fare than purchase delicacies which unduly tax the pocket. Far better let the beloved ones sometimes wait for a pleasure than procure it at risk to the health of an overworked father and mother. Before an important step, wisdom dictates that one should count the cost.

WHY THEY DO NOT MARRY.

Girls who have been brought up in comfortable circumstances, with all reasonable wants supplied, do not seem eager to marry. It is difficult for a girl thus favoured, especially during the heyday of youth, when she is exuberant with health and animation, to believe that any life can be happier than her present one. She has indulgent parents, a good position, fortune, many friends, complete independence, added to youth and its capacity for enjoyment; and unless she falls deeply in love, there is no convincing reason why she should renounce it, and her instinctive inclination is to remain in a position where every ordinary desire is gratified without any corresponding obligations on her side.

To many girls nowadays marriage means undertaking responsibilities, and limiting the scope of their ideal life of independence, for their present mode is to amuse themselves, not to marry, and there is no doubt that this feeling, the outcome of their freedom and their camaraderie with men, has tended to develop the practical side of their nature, to the deterioration of the softer and more emotional one. Girls and young men are friends, not lovers; and sentiment and romance have for the time become eclipsed by the attractions of the new life they are enjoying. Brimful of novelty, pleasure and fun, love has no room in it, and poor little Cupid sits forlornly, with drooping wings, sadly watching a world in which he has no place or occupation. No wonder the little god views the new century with mistrust and sorrow at finding only deaf ears turned to the story to which until now he had always found ready listeners. This is not a sentimental or romantic age; it is too full, the pressure is too great, life is too easy and full of enjoyment, and the eager search for it has dulled the softer side of woman's nature, and their new-found liberty revolts against any restraints—even those of love. It is the inevitable reaction, added to which the greater luxury and expense of living, makes marriage less possible than when life was simpler and less complex.

GOOD BOOTS AND SHOES.

The advantages of buying good boots and shoes cannot be too forcibly impressed upon the maiden when she first receives her dress allowance. Cheap boots are such very bad economy that only the youthful and unwise, or the poor person who cannot possible afford to buy better would think of indulging in them. They propably look fairly well at first, but this appearance is unfortunately only maintained so long as they are comparatively new, and have seen no wet, whilst their wearing qualities, as a rule, are only conspicuous by their absence. Wet feet are surely the cause of more ills than anything else on earth, and yet one finds girls who will cheerfully start out for the day on a wet morning, with nothing more to protect their feet than a pair of these thin soled sponges, and no hope of changing until they return home. The good boot, on the other hand, looks good to the very last, will probably outwear two or even three of the cheaper pairs, whilst rain has far less effect upon the soles of the foot covering bought at a good shop, and for which a good price has been paid.

There is a lot of lore as regards boots to be learnt. Who has not suffered from being, when quite young, put into tight or short boots? The tight boot, perhaps, does not do so much permanent harm, the actual pain, too, which it inflicts upon the wearer going far to make its use impossible, but the short variety has much indeed to answer for. The enlarged toe joint can often be traced to its use, and the distorted foot generally, whilst the permanent discomfort set up by wearing a boot which makes one's great toe turn inwards towards the middle of the foot, can best be realised by those who have suffered. And even the purchasing of properly-shaped, good quality articles, does not exhaust one's obligations as regards them.

THE HOUSEHOLD LEDGER.

English women are perhaps not so particular in keeping their household accounts as they were a few years ago. French women and Germans look very carefully to the income and the outgo of the household, balancing every item, and knowing where their money goes, and for what. If no system of account-keeping is practised, the sense of actual value of the shillings received from the bread-winner is lost.

Every housewife should have a ledger as an indispensable assistant in her family affairs. Under separate headings, as clothing, for help, incidentals, etc., should be spaces left, in which cost, weekly allowance, weekly income, details, sum total, and every necessary bit of information may be set down in black and white. Such a ledger, neatly drawn up, would be a suitable wedding present.

WOOLLEN SHAWLS.

To wash woollen shawls. Scrape one pound of soap, boil it down in sufficient water; when cooling beat it with the hand, it will be a sort of jelly; add three tablespoonfuls of spirit of turpentine and one of spirit of hartshorn. Wash the articles well in it, then rinse in cool water until all the soap is taken off, then in salt and water. Fold between two sheets, taking care not to allow two folds of the article washed to come together. Iron with a slightly warmed iron. Shawls done in this way look like new. Salt is to be used only where there are delicate colours that may run.

INFLUENZA

Can be cured by commencing, at the first symptoms, to use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Thousands have used this remedy during the past year, and we have to learn of a single case where they were not pleased. For sale by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

USEFUL HINTS.

To Wash Clothes in Paraffin Soap.—Cut down ½lb. paraffin soap and put it into a boiler of water to melt. Rub the clothes well out of the soda water, in which they have been previously soaked, put them into the boiler and let them boil for half an hour; then put them into a tub with plenty of cold water; wash them thoroughly, then rinse in blue water and dry.

To Clean Embroidery.—Gold and silver fancy-work of this description may be most easily cleaned with spirits of wine, either alone, or diluted with an equal weight of water. The common practice of using alkaline or acidulous liquors is very injurious, and frequently destroys the beauty of the articles, instead of cleaning them.

To Restore Scorched Linen.—Ingredients: Two onions, 2oz. white soap, 2oz. of fuller's earth, half a pint of vinegar. Mode: Extract the juice of the onions by pounding and pressing them; cut up the soap and fuller's earth, and boil all together. When cool, cover the scorched linen with this mixture, and let it dry. Wash the linen, and the scorches will disappear, if not so bad as to damage the texture.

Bed-room Floors.—Some mistresses make a practice of ordering the floors of bed-rooms to be frequently washed. I wish to guard both mistresses and servants against this practice. It is most dangerous to the health of the person who occupies the bed-room, to wash it or scour it, unless the weather be very fine or warm, in order to allow the window to be opened for thoroughly drying the room before night. The utmost that should be done, except in favourable circumstances, is to pass a damp cloth lightly over the floor.

How to Clean Decanters and Cruets.—The best way is to wash them out with a little pearlash and warm water, adding a spoonful or two of fresh slaked lime if necessary. To facilitate the action of the fluids against the sides of the glass, a few small cinders or pieces of raw potato may be used. A spoonful of strong oil of vitriol put into a dry bottle will, if allowed to run round its inner surface, rapidly remove any kind of dirt. It should then be drained, and afterwards rinsed with clean water. Where they have become furred by holding hard water, a little hydro-chloric acid (spirits of salts) diluted with three times its weight of water will remove it.

To Wash Clothes with Paraffin Oil.—To every eight gallons of cold water put ½lb. of soap, shred fine, one and a-half tablespoonful of paraffin oil, into a boiler, put in the clothes, let them come to the boil, keep the lid close on boiler, and steam for half an hour, take out each article separately, and wring them out. When all are finished, hang them out to dry. If possible, bleach your clothes on grass after boiling; but where this cannot be done, it is yet possible with care to keep your linen white and clear. Laces and muslin should not be rubbed, but squeezed with the hands in melted soap and warm water. Be careful, in boiling them, to tie them up in a handkerchief to prevent their being torn.

Piano Keys.—These can be whitened by washing in a solution composed of 1oz. of nitric acid to 10oz. of soft water. Apply with a brush, taking care that it does not flow on the wood part upon which the ivory is veneered, for the joint will be spoiled. Cleanse carefully with clean water and a piece of flannel. Or, sulphorous acid with an equal quantity of water may be used as above. If the discolouration has not gone too far, rub the keys carefully with pure lemon juice. While still damp, put on a coating of whiting or prepared chalk, mixed with a little lemon juice. When dry, brush off with a dry brush, taking care that none of the mixture gets between the keys. If, however, the keys are thoroughly worn and discoloured, they must be dismounted, scraped, bleached, and repolished, which is a long and tedious affair, and requires to be done by a skilled workman.

To Clean Brussels Carpets.—Brussels carpets may be cleaned in the following manner:—First, stretch the carpet tightly on the floor, nail it at the sides, and sweep it clean. Procure an ox gall from a butcher, and mix it with a pail of cold water. Have another pail ready with cold water only. Have also two woollen cloths and several dry towels. Commence by dipping a woollen cloth in the gall-water, and then rub the carpet with it. This will produce a froth on the carpet, and you will now take the other woollen cloth dipped in clean water, with which you will rub the carpet till no more froth rises from it, rinsing the cloth occasionally in the clean water. The water in this pail should be changed when it becomes dirty. You then rub the carpet as dry as possible with the towels.

To Wash Flannels.—In washing flannels (notice particularly), to keep them a good colour, and to prevent their shrinking. Get from the grocer 1lb. or 2lt. (according to the size of your washing) of soap parings, which you will get cheap; for 1lb. of soap parings, put three quarts of water; boil to a jelly, and with this wash your flannels. Be sure you have plenty of warm water, not too hot; put in a handful of your soap jelly, and mix thoroughly in the water; then take the flannels, one at a time, shake all dust out of them first; then slnice the articles up and down well; rub as little as possible, for rubbing knots the little loops of wool together, and thickens the flannel; wring them in a machine, if you have one; if not, squeeze them well. Dry in the open air, if the weather permits, as quickly as possible. In washing scarlet or blue flannel, put one tablespoonful of spirits of ammonia in the rinsing water.

Lime-washing is a much more effectual mode of purification than white-washing, but is not so often used, as few persons know how to make lime-wash. If glue is used it is destroyed by the lime, and the wash easily rubs off the walls when dry. This also happens if the lime be simply slaked in water and used without any fixing material. Lime-wash should be made by placing some freshly burned quicklime in a pail, and pouring on sufficient water to cover it; if the lime is fresh, great heat is given out; boiled oil (a preparation of linseed oil, sold by all oilmen) should then be added, one pint to each gallon of wash. For cheapness, any refuse fat, such as dripping, may be used instead of the boiled oil. The whole should then be thinned with water. The brush should not be left in the lime-wash, or the bristles will be destroyed. Should coloured wash be required, 1lb. of green vitroil added to every two gallons of wash gives a pleasing drab. Quick-lime slaked with skimmed milk, and afterwards thinned with water, makes an excellent wash for out-door walls, as it is not acted on by the weather.

Working Dresses.—It is best to wear washing dresses to work in as much as possible; of course washing them or having them washed is troublesome and expensive, but dirt and grease do not ruin them, and they look fresher and better than stuff dresses, especially in summer. Never trim a washing dress with flounces or frills; they look out of place, are soon crumpled, and are very troublesome to starch and iron. Do not have a working dress made long; it is waste of stuff, and would be very much in the way. Keep your working dress clean and tidy by wearing over it a large thick apron with a bib, and turning up your sleeves.

I had tried many dochtors and swallowed their shtuff,
And advertised noshtrums more than enough;
Till my coppers were gone, an' my throat was on fire,
And the lungs in my shtumach refused to reshpire;
When a bottle of "Woods'" gave a new lease of life,
And brought back the shmiles to the face of my wife;
So take my advishe for colds, faith be shure
You get Mishter Woods' Great Pepperminnt Cure.

SENT NINE BOTTLES OF CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY TO HER FRIENDS.

"A lady customer of mine was so well pleased with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy which she had used for her children when suffering from colds and croup," says F. W. J. Fletcher, a chemist at Homebush, Victoria, "that during a fortnight's time she obtained at my shop nine bottles, which she sent to friends in different parts of the State, telling them how much good it had done and advising them to give it a trial." Sold by by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Nelson Province Election.

At the official declaration of the Nelson Province poll at St. Arnaud, Mr Irvine said the Nelson Province was now the largest mining province in the State. He had not made a platform speech, as it was not necessary for Council representatives to tie themselves to any platform. The Council now had the power of suggestion in money bills, and it would exercise it freely for the benefit of the people, and to reduce taxation. (Cheers). What they wanted was less legislation and better administration. (Applause.) They had spent millions, and all their assets in land were pretty well gone. Yet what had they for it all? They had very little proper administration in the past. Very little administrative ability was shown in the Mines Department. They could see this in the shepherding of leases that was going on all over the country. If this department were managed properly there would be employment for thousands of miners. He would not give a lease to anyone unless he had some guarantee that they were going to work it, and he would only give an interim title until that was done. They wanted commercial batteries instead of the 3-head batteries he saw through the country that were only fit for schools of mines. There were hundreds of lodes in the province which could be worked profitably by miners if there were batteries run on commercial principles. No new legislation was required, only commercial administration. And what had been done for agriculture? They talked about compulsory purchase and unimproved land value taxation. The proposed tax was only to remove the burden from the rich man to the poor man. (Applause.) The population of the country was allowed to drift away, and as the population grew less taxation became heavier. Closer settlement meant keeping the people on the land, but what had the department done in that direction? They had parted with their lands and forests, and they never bothered their heads about opening up markets for produce. They failed to conserve water, and in some instances failed to make railways to take the produce away. They should try to get a maximum result out of a minimum cost. (Applause.) By proper administration of the Agricultural Department they could reduce taxation and increase population. (Cheers.) He intended to keep an eye on what the Agent-General in London was doing, and what his services would cost the country. They had spent £12,000 before in this way, and he had never seen anything they had got for it. He thanked them for his election, and he wished them to understand he was no parochialist, but would do his best for the State as a whole.

CURED OF NEURALGIA.

"I had been suffering for some time with a very bad attack of neuralgia," writes E. J. Potter, Esq., of Yea, Victoria, "when I was informed by Mr Fred. Purcell, of the establishment of Messrs E. S. Purcell & Co., that Chamberlain's Pain Balm was highly recommended for my complaint. Acting on his suggestion, I bought a bottle, and as soon as I returned home, applied some according to directions, and to my great delight I experienced immediate relief, and it only took a few applications to effect a complete cure." For sale by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Important to Applicants for Mining Leases.

Applicants for leases within the district covered by *The Ripon shire Advocate* are invited to peruse the following facts:—

The New Mining Regulations require that when a lease is marked out the applicant "shall insert in a newspaper PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT WHERE THE LAND IS SITUATED, or if no such newspaper, then in the one published nearest the district, an advertisement or notice in the form marked A in the schedule prescribed."

Ten days are allowed, after marking out the lease, in which to lodge the application with the Warden or his clerk, and forward a duplicate to the Minister of Mines.

The word "district" in the regulations has been defined by the Crown Solicitor to be read as locality, and not as mining district, and the lease should therefore be advertised in the paper nearest the and for which application is to be made. As TEN days (not seven as formerly) are given in which to complete the application, no valid excuse can now be urged for failure to advertise the lease in the district paper, though it has only a weekly, and not a daily issue.

This is borne out by the following memo. from the Mines Department received by Mr H. A. Adams, *Grenville Standard*, Linton.—"Sir,—Referring to your communication, I have the honor to inform you that the Warden's clerk at Smythesdale has been instructed to advise intending applicants for mining leases, where opportunity offers [i.e., for tendering such advice], that the regulation relating to advertising their applications should be STRICTLY ADHERED TO.—I have the honor to be, etc., P. Cohen, for Sec. of Mines and Water Supply."

Bonnington's Irish Moss
Cures Whooping Cough, Croup, All Chest Affections.

A CASE IN CARLTON.

A Convincing Proof.

The Case of Mrs. L. STEPHENS.

(*By a Melbourne Reporter.*)

After the hearing of such evidence as was forthcoming from Mrs. Lillian Stephens, of No. 548 Lygon-street, Carlton, we can confidently recommend our readers to peruse it and allow them to arrive at their own decisions. Mrs. Stephens said:—

"Seven years ago I was fortunate in getting rid of an illness which seemed to have got hold of me for life. This was before I was married, when I used to work a sewing-machine a good deal, and when I was at my home in Newham, not far from Kyneton, where I also lived at one time.

"What was the nature of your illness, Mrs. Stephens?"

"Well, my father and everybody thought I was going into consumption. But, thank God, my case was not that. No; but you would have thought so, to look at me; my face was so deathly white, and there was not the slightest particle of colour in my lips either. And, oh! how terribly thin I was—for all the world like a shadow, instead of a human being, and there was just about as much, or, rather, as little, life in me as could be expected in one so frail and delicate. It was poorness of blood I was suffering from, and I believe I would be nearer the mark if I said I had no blood in me at all, for I was as weak as it was possible to be. I felt it was a trouble to do anything, the least exertion always being sufficient to exhaust me so that for an hour or two I would be almost helpless. This wretched feebleness was not my only trouble, as I was afflicted in ways that would have distracted a woman much stronger than I was. I had such headaches as you never heard of—racking, piercing pains that dulled my intellect and made me so despondent and mopish that I could not find the least interest in anything in the world. May heaven spare other women from becoming half as down-hearted and miserable as I was, for I positively felt weary of life. The food that was given to me, let it be as tasty and nicely-prepared as possible, I could scarcely touch, for if anybody had a wretched appetite it was myself."

"That was unfortunate, as you were deprived of the chance of gaining strength from nourishing foods?"

"Yes; it was a great pity," replied Mrs. Stephens, with a sigh, "and then, again, I could not digest the food I did swallow. That was worse than ever, and that's how it was I kept so low and feeble, and I suppose the extreme weakness I was labouring under accounts for my nervous system becoming so unhinged. But here, I could go on for another hour talking about my ailments, but I think what I have said should suffice to give other sufferers an idea of the alarming state of health I was in, and for their sake I am only too glad to tell you the wonderful things that happened when I started to take Clements Tonic."

"Were you advised to adopt that course?"

"It was through reading a book that was put under my door that I gave Clements Tonic a trial, and I always say how glad I am that I read a case like mine in it, because I was then encouraged to try that splendid remedy, which was really the best I had ever taken. I say this because Clements Tonic made my health better than it had ever been before, and after a while you should have seen the look of surprise that was written on the faces of those who had thought I was going into consumption. It would have done you good, and, my word, nobody was more surprised than myself, for I felt a different woman altogether. My nerves soon stopped trembling and my nervous fears were quickly abandoned. Instead of being downcast and fit to cry every minute I became happy and bright, the reason being that Clements Tonic had made my blood rich and had given me strength, which also came from the food which that remedy enabled me to eat and digest. My pains all went, and for the past seven years my health has been grand, for which I am very thankful indeed."

"And you would make your thankfulness known?"

"Yes most willingly, so publish what I've told you in any form you like."

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, Lillian Stephens, of 548 Lygon-street, Carlton, in the State of Victoria, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of four folios, and consecutively numbered from one to four, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish in any manner my statements—which I give voluntarily, and without receiving any payment—and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of an Act of the Parliament of Victoria, rendering persons making a false declaration punishable for wilful and corrupt perjury.

Lillian Stephens

Declared at Carlton, in the State of Victoria, this 12th day of January, 1904, before me,

HY EDWARDS, J.P.,

A Justice of the Peace in and for the Central Bailiwick of the State of Victoria.

Railway Time-Table.

The following is the new railway time able, which took effect on Monday, 2nd May, 1904:—A mixed train leaves Ballarat at 11.20 a.m., Trawalla at 12.7 p.m., reaching Beaufort at 12.22, and taking its departure at 12.30. It leaves Middle Creek at 12.54, and Buangor at 1.4. The Adelaide express still leaves Melbourne at 4.40 p.m. (Sundays excepted), Ballarat at 7.50, and Beaufort at 8.44 (arriving here at 8.39). On the return journey to Melbourne (Monday excepted) the express leaves Beaufort at 6.25 a.m. (arriving here at 6.20). The afternoon mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat runs every week day. It departs from Buangor at 4.45 p.m., Middle Creek at 4.55, Beaufort at 5.30 (arriving here at 5.20), Trawalla at 5.54, and Burrumbeet at 6.9. A mixed train will also leave Ballarat and intervening stations to Stawell on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5.10 a.m. (arriving here at 6.50 a.m., and leaving at 6.55 a.m.), and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 5.15 p.m., Burrumbeet at 6.9, Trawalla at 6.35, Beaufort at 7 (arriving here at 6.50), Middle Creek at 7.30, and Buangor at 7.42. The morning mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat leaves Stawell at 6 a.m. instead of 5.15 a.m., and is timed to leave the district stations every week day as follows:—Buangor, 7.48; Middle Creek, 8; Beaufort, 8.37 (arriving here at 8.27); Trawalla, 8.50; Burrumbeet, 9.16.

Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere. Wholesale depôt 33, Farrington Road, London, England.

W. EDWARD,

Painter, Paperhanger, and Glazier

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.

Dealer in Paints, Oils, Colors, Paperhangings Window Glass, Varnishes, Brushes, etc., etc.

All sorts of Vehicles Re-painted. Estimates given in town and country. All Painters' Requisites kept in stock.

W. EDWARD NICKOLS & CHESTERFIELD

(LATE W. EDWARD NICKOLS),

Auctioneers and General Commission, House, Land, and Insurance Agents,

BEAUFORT, ARARAT, AND PITFIELD.

MR. J. H. CHESTERFIELD, Auctioneer.

MONEY TO LEND.

AUCTION SALES CONDUCTED in any part of the State of Victoria.

Every attention, and prompt returns.

W. EDWARD NICKOLS & CHESTERFIELD, Auctioneers.

CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.

THE PROPRIETOR of the above well-known Hostelry, in thanking residents of Beaufort and district for the very liberal patronage bestowed on the house during the past two years, takes this favorable opportunity to let them know that the HOTEL has lately been thoroughly RENOVATED, PAINTED, and where necessary, RE-FURNISHED, and patrons will now find the

Accommodation Unsurpassed in the District.

Best Brands of Wines, Spirits and Ales will be retailed, as heretofore, with every civility.

WILLIAM J. HILL, Proprietor.

F. G. PRINCE

Begs to intimate that he has STARTED BUSINESS as a BUTCHER in premises in

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT

(next door to Mr. T. Sands), and hopes by strict attention to business and by keeping the Primest Meat, to merit a fair share of public patronage.

Small Goods a Speciality.

T. E. SANDS, Cash Grocer,

Begs to inform the public of Beaufort and district that he has removed his business to the Corner of Neill and Lawrence Streets, Beaufort, and by keeping only Best Quality Goods, at Lowest Rates, hopes to secure a fair share of public patronage. Orders called for.

J. B. COCHRAN begs to intimate that having purchased Miss Wilson's Stock of FANCY GOODS, TOYS, CONFECTIONERY, etc., he intends carrying on this Business, in conjunction with his NEWS AGENCY and STATIONERY BUSINESS, in the premises formerly occupied by Miss Wilson, next door to Wotherspoon & Co's. Ladies are notified that Afternoon Tea can be obtained. Accordeons, Concertinas Violins, and Musical Sundries kept in Stock A good assortment of Pipes Tobacco, and Cigarettes

WM. C. PEDDER,

Wheelwright and Blacksmith,

Begs to thank the public of Beaufort and surrounding district for their patronage during the last 15 years, and to intimate that he is still carrying on business at the same old address,

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT,

with a staff of skilled mechanics and up-to-date machinery, and is prepared to execute any orders entrusted to him with promptness and despatch. Prices as low as possible, consistent with good workmanship. Horses as usual carefully shod.

Police Magistrate's Fixtures.

The following are the police magistrate's permanent engagements in the Ballarat district, with the necessary proviso, added by Mr Dickson, "unless otherwise engaged":—

Ballarat—10 a.m., daily.
Ballarat East—10 a.m., 3rd Wednesday and fourth Thursday.
Beaufort—1.30 p.m., 1st Thursday and fourth Tuesday.
Bungaree—9 a.m., 4th Monday.
Buninyong—3.15 p.m., 3rd Friday.
Creswick—2 p.m., 2nd Wednesday.
Gordon—9 a.m., 2nd Monday.
Linton—2 p.m., 1st Saturday.
Learmonth—12.30 p.m., 1st Tuesday.
Kaleno—11 a.m., 2nd Tuesday.
Scarsdale—Noon, 3rd Thursday.
Sebastopol—3.30 p.m., 2nd Thursday
Skipton—10 a.m., 2nd Wednesday.
Smythesdale—Noon, 3rd Tuesday.

REFERRING TO THE NEW

REGAL CLUB WHISKY,

Which since its importation to Victoria, within the last six months, has established itself in public favor to an extent HITHERTO UNEQUALLED PROBABLY BY ANY OTHER WHISKY THAT HAS COME INTO THE STATE, the following Certificate from one of the most eminent of English analysts gives it at once a hall-mark of superiority, which must recommend it to the confidence of every consumer:—

CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify that I have submitted to a very careful Chemical Analysis a sample of the REGAL CLUB WHISKY received from the Imperial Glenlivet Distillery, Strathspey, N.B., and the analytical data I have obtained proves it to be, in a conclusive manner, a product of high quality and purity. It possesses a mellow and creamlike flavor that is only to be found in the choicest whiskies, and is entirely free from all acrid or undesirable admixture. It has been thoroughly and naturally matured by age, and contains restorative and dietetic properties of a high order.

Grantville H. Sharp, F.C.S., Analyst, London, E.C.

J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Agents.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

In thanking the public for the support accorded me for the past 4½ years, I beg to announce that I have taken the

Golden Age Hotel, Beaufort,

And trust by keeping the very

Best Liquors in Stock,

to receive a share of public patronage.

I will be in possession on and after Saturday, January 30th.

MEALS a Specialty, from 1s.

A careful Groom always in attendance.

C. W. JONES.

LINCOLN STUART & CO. Ltd. Flinders St. Melbourne. for MENS & BOYS Clothing, Ties, Shirts, Underwear, Hats, Boots, Etc. Etc.

NO MATTER WHERE

you live, we fit you without your leaving your fireside, and with no more trouble than the writing of a letter. You can, through the post office, bring our warehouse to your door.

FAMOUS Two Guinea to Measure Suits

THE BEST VALUE IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Write for self-measurement forms and patterns of our New Season's Goods. Magnificent selection

The only Machine that leaves Land Perfectly Level.

This Patent Style of Machine is the only machine perfectly and completely controlled by Compound Levers to instantly set machine in and out of cut, or deeper or shallower when travelling. Made all size.

6ft. Premier.

PATENT MALLEE KING STEEL OR WOOD-FRAMED DISC,

Renowned for immense quantities and quality of work done.

Leads Everywhere.

ORCHARDIST'S EXTENSION DISC

Patent Extension and Reversible Double Beam Steel Frame Orchard Cultivator, will extend out to 10ft. or 12ft. wide, and close up to 5ft. 6in. Simple and easy managed in every particular.

ONE-HORSE or PONY DOT,

For smaller Growers, suitable for Vineyards, Nursery Growers, Small Orchards Potato and Onion Growers, is built on Reversible and Extension Principle.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES.

W. G. BARGER.

SOHO DISC FACTORY,

231 & 233 FRANKLIN-ST., MELBOURNE, AND BOORT.

AGENTS FOR BEAUFORT AND DISTRICT—DIXON BROS.

Printed and published by the Proprietor, Arthur Parker, at the office of The *Ripon shire Advocate* newspaper, Lawrence-street, Beaufort, Victoria

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA 27 JUN 04

The Riponshire Advocate.

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RELIABILITY.

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RELIABILITY.

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RELIABILITY.

RELIABILITY.

What a lot in that one word when associated with any business whatever, and what a vast amount there is in it when bracketed with a WATCHMAKER'S and JEWELLERY BUSINESS.

YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED

Our business going ahead while others were standing still or going backwards.

YOU MUST HAVE AN IDEA

Of what our business is now compared to what it was a few years back.

YOU MUST GUESS

That there is something powerfully convincing about our method of doing business. ARE YOU ONE OF PAYNE'S CUSTOMERS? If not, we respectfully ask for your patronage, and if afterwards you do not think we are worthy of it, we are perfectly willing to lose it.

Whatever is done here is done properly. Whatever we sell you is "Right" in the full sense of that word.

Our stock embraces everything in the Watch, Clock, and Jewellery line, and a good selection is shown in everything. If there is one lot of goods more than any other we would like you to inspect it is our fine selection of Rings—either Wedding Rings and Keepers, Dress and Engagement Rings, or Gent's. Rings.

We have a beautiful stock of Diamond Marquise, Diamond Half-hoop, and Gipsy-set Dress and Engagement Rings, at all prices.

Another thing we wish you to bear in mind is that all PAYNE'S RINGS are made by Expert Ring-makers only. You can buy a ring here with confidence, and rest assured that it has passed through hands whose owners have made ring-making a life-long study. Of course, you can see from the foregoing that this is undoubtedly our specialty; but a splendid selection of other goods is shown as well, including Brooches, Links, Bracelets, Muff Chains, Photo Pendents, Gent's. Gold and Silver Chains, Lockets, Medals, Necklets, Gold, Silver, Nickel, and Gun-metal Watches, Clocks, Spectacles, &c.

Sight Tested and Spectacles Made to Measure. We can guarantee you satisfaction in every description of Watch, Clock, and Jewellery REPAIRS. Expert workmen employed in each branch of the trade.

The Address is—

GEORGE PAYNE,

WATCHMAKER and JEWELLER,

BALLARAT

(Two doors down Sturt-street from the Post Office.)

FUNERAL REFORM.

Established 1860.

A. H. SANDS

(Late Wm. Baker),

UNDERTAKER,

Opposite the State School,

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.

Hearse and other requisites supplied in town or country.

Funerals of all classes furnished at the lowest possible charges.

Post, Telegraph, and Telephone Messages promptly attended to.

A. H. SANDS,

Cabinet Maker, Upholsterer, and Picture Framer.

A well-assorted stock of Softwood Timber, Picture Framing, Paints, Oils, and Window Glass kept on hand.

Give your orders for JOB PRINTING to the newspaper in your district, because it prints thousands of reports and notifications for which it receives no payment whatever. It is always spending its time and money to benefit and improve the prospects of the place through which it circulates. It gives you value in return for your printing orders.

An advertisement is a paper man's marketable commodity, and it is quite as much so as a side of bacon, a pound of butter, or a ton of flour. No man can afford to give away the things he sells for a livelihood, and the man who does so in order to get business is generally in a bad way. Don't try to put the paper man "in a bad way." But exercise a little human nature. Support him; he needs encouragement and support; but do it in the legitimate way. If the printer gets a few pounds worth of printing orders from you, he is not in a position to give you a pound's worth of advertising for nothing. And you have had value for the printing already. Go into a grocer's or draper's for L3 worth of goods, and the grocer's man or draper will not throw in gratis L1 worth of something else that you may ask for. Try him! you don't believe us.

SUPPORT

LOCAL INDUSTRY,

AND

SUBSCRIBE

TO THE

LOCAL PAPER,

THE

RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE.'

We ask that our efforts for the district's good shall be recognised. An increased circulation means still greater usefulness on our part. When a neighbour or friend asks for the loan of the local paper, tell him or her that for the small sum of

3s per Quarter

It is obtainable direct from the office regularly.

In addition to complete and impartial reports of all local meetings, an interesting

14-Column Supplement

Is presented to Regular Subscribers.

ORDERS FOR

Plain and Ornamental

JOB * PRINTING

Executed with Neatness and Despatch.

Bear in mind that

ADVERTISING

ALWAYS PAYS.

Business men should note that as the Local Paper is extensively read in the district, it therefore affords a splendid advertising medium.

A Safe Remedy for all Skin and Blood Diseases.

If you suffer from any disease due to an impure state of the Blood, from whatever cause arising, you should test the value of Clarke's Blood Mixture, the world-famed Blood Purifier and Restorer. This medicine has 40 years' reputation, and is to-day more popular than ever, the reason of this being undoubtedly because this wonderful remedy does what it professes to do—it cures skin and blood diseases permanently.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

IS THE FINEST BLOOD PURIFIER EVER DISCOVERED.

It is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For

SCROFULA,	BAD LEGS,
SCURVY,	BLOTCHES,
ECZEMA,	SPOTS,
BLOOD POISON,	BLACKHEADS,
ULCERS,	PIMPLES,
SKIN and BLOOD DISEASES,	and SORES OF ALL KINDS,

it is a safe and permanent remedy.

It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains, for it removes the cause from the Blood and Bones.

NOTE.—This mixture is pleasant to the taste and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, and the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it.

TRIED MANY THINGS WITHOUT BENEFIT UNTIL I TOOK CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE.

Mr F. E. Lewis, 48 Bridge Street, Row, Chester, writes:—"Just a line in favour of 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I had eczema for seven months, and tried many things without benefit until I took your remedy. After the eighth bottle I was quite well again. Please accept this letter as a token of gratitude to your wonderful 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.'"—June 13, 1903.

ECZEMA AND IRRITATING SKIN TROUBLE CURED.

Mr W. G. Weston, care of Messrs Knott, of 49, Essex-street, Kingsland-road, N.E., writes:—"Gentlemen,—"I feel it my duty to inform you of the great benefit in health I have received through taking your famous 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I have been a sufferer from eczema and an irritating skin trouble since the age of thirteen. While an out-patient at one of the big London hospitals a doctor informed me that my disease was the result of looking after foreign horses. I have had as many as thirty horses under my care, my father being a horsedealer and jobmaster. He (my father) was speaking one day to a friend of mine who mentioned that he was being cured of an ulcerated leg, due to a horse-kick, by 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' Continued, however, to suffer until April 4 last, when my friend told me he was completely cured. Then I started to take 'Clarke's Blood Mixture' myself, and I am now completely cured, after suffering and being disfigured for several years. I am able to follow my employment, and am very pleased to think there is such a valuable remedy obtainable for such a small sum. I should be pleased to answer any inquiries concerning my case."—July 17, 1903.

ANOTHER PERMANENT CURE OF BAD LEGS AND ABSCESSES.

Mr James Waring, of Clay Coton Lodge, near Rugby, writes:—"It is with great pleasure that I write to tell you of the benefit I have derived from taking 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' For a long time I suffered with bad legs and abscesses. I was under a doctor for five months, and, not getting much better, I went as an out-patient to the local hospital for nine weeks. The doctor then told me I should have to go inside before he could do anything for me. I went in and stayed for thirteen weeks, and after undergoing two operations I got a little better. Before I had been out of hospital a week I became worse than ever, so my wife told me to try 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I did so, and after taking five bottles and using four pots of your salve I was completely cured. I have waited twelve months to see if my legs broke out again, but, thanks to your 'Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture,' I am as well to-day as I have ever been in my life. You can make what-ever use you like of this letter."—Oct. 15, 1903.

IMPURITIES IN THE BLOOD.—"We have seen hosts of letters from all sorts and conditions of people, in which the writers acknowledge the benefit they have received from Clarke's Blood Mixture, which as a curative agent cannot be too highly estimated, since it cleanses and clears the blood from all impurities, and restores it to its normal condition." This is a good testimonial from the *Family Doctor*, the popular medical weekly, which goes on further to say:—"It is certainly the finest blood purifier that science and skill have brought to light, and we can with the utmost confidence recommend it to our subscribers and the public generally."

Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

Ask for

Clarke's Blood Mixture,

and beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

RE MINING LEASES.

It is notified for general information that applicants for Mining Leases are required, within seven days previous to lodging the application, to insert in a newspaper published in the district where the land is situated, or if no such newspaper, then in one published nearest the district, an advertisement or notice in the form marked "A" in the schedule relating to Mining Leases.

Justices' Fixtures.

The local J's.P. have arranged to attend the Beaufort Courts of Petty Sessions as under:—Second Tuesday.—Messrs F. Beggs, J. R. Wotherspoon, and Rear-Admiral Bridges. Fourth Tuesday.—Messrs M. Flynn, G. Topper, and T. Beggs.

THROAT AFFECTION AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight" cold, or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic Affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European Depot, 33, Farringdon Road, London, England.

GENERAL PRINTING

AT LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES,

"The Advocate" Office, Beaufort

Postal Intelligence.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS.

MAIL TIME TABLE.

RAILWAY.

Daily.	Closing Time. a.m.	p.m.
Melbourne ...	....	8 and 4.50
Ballarat ...	....	8 and 4.50
Geelong ...	....	8 and 4.50
Trawalla ...	....	8 and 4.50

Registered mail and parcels post close 20 minutes prior.

Ararat, 11.50 a.m., and 8 p.m. (including Sundays.)

Stawell ... 11.50 } 8 p.m. Sundays, Middle Creek, 11.50 } Tuesdays, and Murtoa ... 11.50 } Thursdays. Buangor ... 11.50 }

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

English mail per Mail Steamer, via Adelaide, 8 p.m. every Wednesday.

COUNTRY.

Daily	a.m.
Raglan ...	9.15
Waterloo ...	9.15
Waterloo S.,	9.15
Main Lead, ...	9.15
Chute ...	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Nerring ...	9.15
Lake Goldsmith ...	9.15
Stockyard Hill ...	9.15

Reg. mail and p.p., 9 a.m.

Eurambeen ...	12.45
Shirley, ...	12.45

Reg. mail and p.p., 20 minutes prior.

MAILS INWARD.

Arrive Daily.

From Melbourne, Ballarat, Geelong, and Trawalla.—12.20 p.m. daily and 8.40 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. From Melbourne and Ballarat, 7 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

From Ararat, Stawell, Middle Creek, and Murtoa.—5.30 p.m. daily. Ararat, Stawell, and Buangor, 8.30 a.m. daily.

From Waterloo, Waterloo South, Main Lead, Raglan, and Chute.—4.30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

From Stockyard Hill, Nerring, and Lake Goldsmith.—4.30 p.m.

From Eurambeen and Shirley.—4.30 p.m.

From England.—Weekly.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Two deliveries by postman daily.

Office is open daily for transaction of postal and telegraph business, sale of stamps and postal notes from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m., and from 7 p.m. till 8 p.m.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

From 9 a.m. till 5 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SAVINGS BANK.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, 10 to 12 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. for receiving deposits only.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

From 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.

OLD AGE PENSION PAYMENTS.

9 a.m. till 3 p.m.

G. M. CREAGH, Postmistress.

The Man Who Doesn't Advertise

Breathes there a man with soul so dead
That to himself he hath not said,
"My trade of late is getting bad,
I'll try another ten-inch ad."
If such there be, go mark him well,
For him no bank account shall swell—
No angel watch the golden stair
To welcome home a millionaire.
To such a man the noisy din
Of traffic may not enter in,
For bargain hunters by the score
Shall pass nor heed his dingy door;
For tho' his sign is on the wall
And on some barnyard gate a scrawl,
No people who have cash and sense,
Go prancing around to read the fence.
The man who never asks for trade
By local line or ad. displayed
Cares more for rest than worldly gain
And patronage but gives him pain;
Tread lightly, friends, let no rude sound
Disturb his solitude profound.
Here let him live in calm repose
Unsought except by men he owes.
And when he dies, go plant him deep
That naught may break his dreamless sleep,
Where no rude clamor may dispel
The quiet that he loved so well,
And that the world may know its loss
Place on his grave a wreath of moss.
And on the stone above, "Here lies
A chump who wouldn't advertise."

—Mortimer Crane Brown.

"KEATING'S POWDER" destroys Bugs, Fleas, Moths, Beetles, and all other insects, whilst quite harmless to domestic animals. In exterminating Beetles the success of this powder is extraordinary. It is perfectly clean in application. See the article you purchase is "KEATINGS," *i.e.*, with the signature THOMAS KEATING on each tin, as imitations are noxious and ineffectual. Sold in Tins, 6d. and 1s. each, by all chemists.

Or you dry to do. peesnis mitowt advertising, you will find yourself already like a boy drying to shlide a hill down mitowt shnow. Besides dere ish dese tifferences: ven you don't got some shnow you gant make 'em; but you can somedimes shenerally always make der advertising come right away quick off, all der year rount, mit some moneys.—Joseph.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery, and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere.

TAKE

BEECHAM'S PILLS

To avoid Indigestion

That distressed feeling is simply a poorly-working stomach—it needs a little help—but no matter how bad it may be, a dose of BEECHAM'S PILLS will SPEEDILY GIVE RELIEF. Take BEECHAM'S PILLS for a few days and the trouble will disappear.

To Cure Sick Headache

Sick headache means an overtaxed stomach and a derangement of the digestive organs. BEECHAM'S PILLS have proved themselves a boon for removing that distressed feeling and discomfort. A dose will remove the immediate cause, and if repeated for a few days will enable your system to work normally.

Sold Everywhere in Boxes.

Price 1s. 1½d. (56 Pills) and 2s. 9d. (168 Pills.)

P. J. O'SULLIVAN,

SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER

SNAKE VALLEY.

A large Assortment of Saddlery and Harness Requisites kept in stock.

All kinds of Harness bought, sold, or exchanged.

Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Also Cash Buyer of Hides, Horse-hair, Beeswax, Furred Skins, &c., &c.

NOTICE.

We have resolved to REDUCE the SUBSCRIPTION to "THE RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE" (with which is published a 14-column supplement containing well-selected reading matter) to 3s per quarter, in trust that this concession will be argued taken advantage of.

The Advertising Rates have also been considerably reduced, and advertisers will find it to their benefit to avail themselves of the columns of "The Riponshire Advocate," which is the only newspaper that is printed and published within the boundaries of the Shire. As the advocate of the interests and for the welfare of this district, it has a claim for a considerable amount of support, and has a greater scope for extended usefulness than any other journal or journals within a given radius of Beaufort.

Job Printing, plain and ornamental, of every description, is executed with neatness, accuracy and despatch, and on the most reasonable terms.

We take this opportunity of thanking our patrons for past favors, and while respectfully soliciting a renewal of support, desire to state that increased attention will be given to all matters of local and general interest. As a record of news we will always endeavour to make our columns as comprehensive as possible. In all departments, in fact, we will aim at improvement, and, therefore, confidently appeal to the public for increased support.

ARTHUR PARKER,
Proprietor

Business man—"You remember that 'ad.' I had in your paper, and took out two months ago? Well, I want to have it put back again.' Editor—"Why, I thought you said no one noticed it while it was in." Business man (humbly)—"They didn't seem to until I took it out." The mere fact of your advertising lets people know you are still in business; also that your business is sufficiently important to stand advertising. If you are in business you cannot afford to do without advertising, as it is too much of an admission to the world at large.—Extract from an interview with a man who has profited by newspaper advertising.

The greatest aid you can give your newspaper is your job printing; if you do not feel able to run an advertisement, surely you can afford to give the newspaper your cards, dodgers, billheads, letter-heads, envelopes, and all business printing to execute. The newspaper man needs it, and it helps him to pay his printers for setting up the thousand and one free notices he gives you and your town; but don't give it to the printer or job printing office that can give you no such return, and is spending neither time, money, nor brains in helping you to build up your town. The time may come when a newspaper can live simply upon the revenue derived from advertising and subscriptions, but no ordinary newspaper in any ordinary town can exist without the auxiliary support derived from job printing. Therefore, if you want a *good* newspaper—one that can still further help you and your town—give it your job printing.

J. B. COCHRAN, NEWS AGENT, BOOKSELLER, and STATIONER, begs to announce to the inhabitants of BEAUFORT and district that he is Sole Agent for the *Argus*, *Age*, *Herald*, *Star*, *Courier*, Melbourne *Punch*, Sydney *Bulletin*, *Riponshire Advocate*, *Leader*, *Weekly Times*, *Australasian*, *Australian Journal*, *Sportsman*, and all other Periodicals. All School Requisites kept in stock. Advertisements received for all the above-named papers. While thanking his numerous customers for past favors, he trusts, by strict attention to the delivery of all papers, to merit a fair share of their support. Advertisements received for all Melbourne and Ballarat papers. By sending through local agent advertisers save postage. Note the address—Next door to Wotherspoon & Co.

STEVENSON BROS.,

BUILDERS

AND

CONTRACTORS,

HAVELOCK STREET,

BEAUFORT.

Estimates submitted for all work in building line.

JOHN HUMPHREYS

COMMISSION & INSURANCE AGENT

ACCOUNTANT ETC.,

Neill Street, Beautort.

DEBTS and Debts Collected. Agent for the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

Agency Business of all kinds attended to.

YOU CAN AFFORD IT.

Very few are too poor now-a-days to take their country paper, and it is false economy to try and get along without it. Hardly a week passes that something or other does not appear in its columns that will be of financial benefit to the subscriber, and by the end of the year he had made or saved or won twenty times the subscription paid for it. The city papers don't take the place of the country ones, though some people appear to think they do. The city papers are all right in their way, but they do not give you that in which you are most interested—your country news. You cannot learn from them when and where your country meetings are to be held, who are dying or who are marrying, who are moving in or who are moving out, court proceedings, who wants to buy or sell farm or land produce, in fact hundreds of things of which it might be of particular importance for you to know. If you can afford to take only one paper, by all means take the one that is published in the country or district where you live. It will cost you less, and thereby you will be assisting yourself and keeping the money in the district.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, in writing, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.

2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their newspapers, the publisher may continue to send them until arrears are paid.

3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the post-office to which they are directed, they are held responsible until they settle their bills, and ordered the newspapers to be discontinued.

4. If subscribers move to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to the former direction, the subscribers are responsible

5. The court has decided that is refusing to take periodicals from the post-office or leaving them uncalled for, "*prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud."

6. Any person who receives a newspaper and makes use of it, whether he has ordered it or not, is held in law to be a subscriber.

HINTS TO FRIENDLY READERS

You want to see the local paper a successful institution.

Talk about it wherever you go

Mention it to the tradespeople with whom you do business.

If they don't advertise in it, try and induce them to do so.

If you are induced to buy anything from what you have read in its advertising columns mention the fact to the tradesman.

Don't lend your paper to any person who can afford to become a subscriber but is too mean to support local enterprise.

A country paper kindly supplies this beautiful simile:—"You might as well try to shampoo an elephant with a thimbleful of soapsuds as attempt to do business and ignore advertising."

FLORILINE.—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in parts of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot 33 Farringdon Road, London, England.

To our Readers and Patrons.

THE PROSPERITY OF A DISTRICT DEPENDS chiefly upon the support and encouragement that is given by the population to local enterprise and industry. Every venture is to a more or less extent speculative, but each, whilst aiming at the success of Promoter, must offer certain returns to those whose support is necessary to achieve certain advantageous results on both sides.

Therefore,

Support Local Industry and Local Enterprise.

The law of exchange was never satisfactory in its working; thus it was that the custom of buying and selling, using a standard currency was introduced. One form of that currency, known as "paper money," and of paper money there is more than one kind. All kinds useful, but not every kind retains its original value. The "paper" money most valuable to a newspaper proprietor is that which is earned him by

"Subscribers and Advertisers"

and he will do his utmost to entitle him to a good share of it.

"The Riponshire Advocate"

is the Advertising Medium for all Contractors, and notifications of the Shire of Ripon and is the

ONLY NEWSPAPER

That is

Printed and Published within the boundaries of the Shire,

And as the advocate of the interests and the welfare of this district it has a claim for considerably greater amount of support, has a greater scope for extended usefulness than any other journal or journals within a radius of the Shire Offices.

The Circulation

of the

Riponshire Advocate

Is

Steadily Increasing,

And the Proprietor, recognising the increased support in this direction, will use his utmost endeavors to merit and sustain the patronage accorded him by giving the Latest possible Local and General News, and the interesting and instructive information.

"The Advocate,"

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING,

CIRCULATES in the following districts:—Beautort, Stockyard Hill, Lake Goldsmith, Sailor's Gully, Main Lead, Raglan, Chutes, Waterloo, Eurambeen, Buangor, Middle Creek, Shirley, Trawalla, Skipton, and Carngham.

With every issue of the Paper is given

A FOURTEEN-COLUMN

SUPPLEMENT,

Containing an

Interesting Serial Tale,
Amusing Anecdotes,
Pastoral News,
Poultry Farming
Agricultural Intelligence,
Recipes,
Gardening Items,
Etc., Etc., Etc.

Business Men, Read.

It was Benjamin Franklin who wrote—

"What steam is to machinery, advertising is to business."

And another writer has said that—

"He who in his "biz." would rise,
Must either 'bust' or advertise."

And advertisers cannot do better than make the *Ripponshire Advocate* the medium for their announcements.

Arthur Parker,

Printer and Publisher,

LAWRENCE STREET, BEAUFORT.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

BALL TICKETS & PROGRAMMES,
ADDRESS & BUSINESS CARDS,
MINING SCRIP, REPORTS, &c.,
PAMPHLETS, CIRCULARS,
BILLHEADS, POSTERS,
DELIVERY BOOKS,
DRAPERS' HANDBILLS,
CATALOGUES, MOURNING CARDS,
SOIREE & DINNER TICKETS,
&c., &c.,

PRINTED in FIRST CLASS STYLE

AT MELBOURNE PRICES.

Office:—Lawrence Street, Beaufort.

Plain & Ornamental Printing

Of Every description executed at the

"RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE"

OFFICE.

BOOKBINDING

ON REASONABLE TERMS

MINING SCRIP, CALL REGISTER, DELIVERY BOOKS, &c.

Prepared on the shortest notice.

LADIES' WINTER UNDERCLOTHING.

This month we are making a Grand Show of Ladies' Winter Underclothing, of Reliable Quality.

COUGLE'S.

No Desirable Style Is Missing From our Well-Assorted Stock.

COUGLE'S.

Ladies' Natural Wool Combinations, long or short sleeves. Splendid value.

Ladies' Woven Undervests, long or short sleeves. Price, 4s 3d, 5s 11d.

Ladies' Ribbed Wool Vests (long or short sleeves), pink, natural, cream. Price, 1s, 1s 3d, 1s 6d, 1s 9d, 1s 11d, 2s 6d, 3s 6d.

Ladies' Flannelette Nightdresses, pink, white, trimmed lace. Price, 2s 11d, 3s 11d, 4s 9d, 5s 9d.

We hold an extensive Stock of Children's Coats, Pellisses, Frocks, &c.; also everything necessary in Underwear.

G. H. COUGLE,

The People's Draper,

HAVELOCK STREET,

BEAUFORT.

COMMERCIAL.

BALLARAT LIVE STOCK MARKET.
Tuesday.

Fat Cattle—214 head came to hand for to-day's sale, consisting principally of middling to useful descriptions, only a very small proportion ranging from good to prime quality. The attendance of the trade was only an average one, and throughout the sales competition lacked the briskness of the previous week, prices for all descriptions showing a decline on last week's values, closing weak. Quotations.—Prime pens bullocks, £11 10s to £13 2s 6d; good, £9 10s to £10 10s; useful, £8 to £9; prime cows, £7 to £7 17s 6d; good, £6 to £6 10s. Calves—14 penned, which sold well. Best to 82s. Sheep—A very short supply was penned for to-day's sale, numbering only 2401, of which a fair proportion consisted of quality ranging from good to prime, remainder chiefly middling and useful descriptions. There was an average attendance of buyers, and as the yarding was under requirements, prices showing a material improvement for quality, whilst other sorts also sold at slightly higher rates. Quotations:— Prime crossbred wethers, 22s to 25s; extra, 26s to 28s 6d; good, 19s to 21s; useful, 17s to 18s; prime crossbred ewes, 20s to 23s; extra, to 26s 3d; good, 18s to 19s; prime merino wethers, 19s to 22s 10d; good, 17s to 18s; useful, 15s to 16s; merino ewes, to 14s 5d. Lambs—660 to hand, a fair proportion being up to trade requirements, which met a ready demand at fully last week's best prices. Prime, 16s to 18s 6d; a few extra, 21s to 23s 7d; good, 14s to 15s; useful, 12s 6d to 13s 6d.

The following district sales are reported:—By Messrs Macleod and booth.—Cattle—2 head, Mr R. Kirkpatrick, Stockyard Hill, bullock £6, cow £5 7s 6d; 2 cows Mr George Kirkpatrick, Stockyard Hill, £4 7s and £5 2s 6d; sheep—191 comeback wethers, Mr Adam Slater, Spring Bank, Skipton, 15s 9d to 19s 1d, averaging 17s 2d; 111 merino, Mr J. G. Brebner, Willow Bank, Buangor, wethers to 20s 8d, ewes at 14s 5d.

BALLARAT PRODUCE MARKET.
Thursday.

Wheat, prime milling, 2s 9½d to 2s 10d. Oats, 1s to 1s 1d; prime Algerian, 1s 2d. Peas, 2s 7d. Barley, malting, 3s 4d; good, 3s; Cape, 1s 9d. Potatoes, 35s to 40s; prime reds, 35s to 40s; Snowflakes, 25s to 30s; New Zealand pink eyes, 15s to 20s; Hay, prime chaffing, 22s 6d to 25s; medium, 15s to 20s; manger, 27s 6d to 30s. Straw, 15s to 20s. Bran, 7½d to 7¾d. Pollard, 7¾d to 8d. Flour, roller, L7 5s to L7 7s 6d. Dairy butter, 7d; factory prints, 10½d; jump, 9d to 10d; separator, 8d to 9d. Eggs, 1s 3d. Honey, 3d to 4d. Bacon sides, 9½d. Cheese. 4½d to 5d.

MELBOURNE PRODUCE MARKET.
Thursday.

Wheat, 2s 11½d. Oats—Prime milling, 1s 3d; feed, 1s to 1s 2½d; stout white, 1s 6d to 1s 10d. Hay—Manger, £3 to £3 10s; chaffing, £2. Chaff—Prime, £2 5s; good, 30s; inferior, 25s. Bran, 8d. Pollard, 8d. Barley—Malting, from 3s 3d; medium, 2s 6d; thin English, to 2s. Cape, 1s 6d to 1s 10d. Straw, £1 10s for Victorian, and £2 2s 6d for Tasmanian. Potatoes—Prime, 35s to 40s; inferior, 25s. Onions, to 35s. Peas, 2s 4½d. Flour, £7 10s.

A CARD.

CLEGG & MILLER,
ARCHITECTS,
LYDIARD STREET, BALLARAT.

Mr. Miller visits Beaufort periodically. Appointments made by letter.

DENTISTRY.

Mr. A. L. GIBBS, and Mr. W. A. J. BRANSTON,
Surgical and Mechanical Dentists,
73 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,

Desire to notify the residents of Beaufort and surrounding districts that MR. BRANSTON may be consulted at BEAUFORT on the first Thursday of each month.

Teeth extracted painlessly.

All Artificial Teeth made on latest approved English and American principles.

Consultation Room—GOLDEN AGE HOTEL.
Hours—12.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Mr J. W. HARRIS,

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST,
REGISTERED DENTIST,
AND
DRUGGIST,
HAVELOCK STREET, BEAUFORT.

In this established profession the first attention is devoted to the
DISPENSING DEPARTMENT.

Every care is ensured in the art and preparation of prescriptions, &c. The latest appliances are used in the Laboratory in Medical Tinctures and British Pharmacopœa Preparations, the Purest Chemicals and Drugs being used. Medicines at Ballarat Prices, sent to all parts of the State by post, rail, coach, &c., and all letters receive prompt and careful attention.

HARRIS'S ANÆMIA MIXTURE, an excellent and invaluable remedy.
ENGLISH AND AMERICAN HERBS.
Homeopathic Medicines. Horse and Cattle Medicines.

Mr J. W. HARRIS, R.D.S.,
Surgical & Mechanical Dentist,
HAVELOCK-STREET, BEAUFORT,

May be consulted DAILY from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m
Teeth fitted accurately in vulcanite or gold at lowest prices.

PAINLESS DENTISTRY.—Teeth extracted painlessly with cocaine ether, chloride of thyl, laughing gas, &

☞NOTE THE ADDRESS—
HAVELOCK-STREET
(Next Mechanics' Institute),
BEAUFORT

Mr. SAMUEL YOUNG,

Barrister and Solicitor,
Proctor and Conveyancer,
BEAUFORT.

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of the State of Victoria for taking Affidavits.

TRUST and other MONIES TO LEND on freehold and other securities.

"RIPONSHIRE ADVOCATE."

Notice to Advertisers.

OWING to the inconvenience caused by Advertisements being received after the appointed time, we beg to notify that unless ALTERATIONS TO STANDING ADVERTISEMENTS reach us by WEDNESDAY Morning, such alterations will not be made till the following issue.

In future this rule will be strictly enforced, in fairness to our employees.

Correspondents are also requested to send reports by Thursday.

A. PARKER, Proprietor.

DULL WET WEATHER in no way interferes with the success of

RICHARDS & CO'S.
NEW INSTANTANEOUS PROCESS.

The Newest Styles in Photography.

The Art Folio,
The Wallet Photograph,
Artist Proofs.

BRIDAL PORTRAITS.—Our Studio has become famous for successful Bridal Portraits. Bridal Veils, Wreaths, and Bouquets kept the studio.

ENLARGED PHOTOS from any Old or Faded copy, in the newest solid art wood frame, 20s. each.

RICHARDS & CO.,
PHOTO ARTISTS,
23 STURT STREET, BALLARAT.

United Ancient Order of Druids.

THE usual FORTNIGHTLY MEETING will be held in the LODGE ROOM, SOCIETIES' HALL, on TUESDAY Evening next, at 8 o'clock sharp.

L. A. JAENSCH, Secy.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

SUNDAY, 26TH JUNE, 1904.

Presbyterian Church.—Beaufort, 11 a.m.; Raglan, 3 p.m.; Main Lead, 7 p.m.—Mr A. McLeod. Middle Creek, 11 a.m.; Trawalla, 3 p.m.; Beaufort, 7 p.m. (solo, "Cleansing Fires," Mrs Barber).—Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A.

Methodist Church.—Shirley, 11 a.m.; Raglan, 3 p.m.; Beaufort, 7 p.m.—Rev. R. Yeo. Beaufort, 11 a.m.; Chute, 3 p.m.; Raglan, 7 p.m.—Supply.

THE
Riponshire Advocate
Published every Saturday Morning.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1904.

A FEATURE of the farming of to-day all over the State is the increasing attention which is being given to the use of artificial fertilisers. To the agricultural chemist the farmer owes much, as his investigations all tend to make the return from crops more of a certainty than heretofore. By his aid the soils are analysed, their constituent qualities determined, and their lacking forces set out. To supply what is wanting in the earth there are various artificial fertilisers, and for the protection of the grain growers there is the Artificial Manures Act. The agricultural societies can send to the Government analytical chemist samples of manure for his examination, and the farmer soons learns what he is buying and knows what to avoid. At the Geelong court last week some cases under the Act were dealt with, and as apparently few people are aware of the scope of the measure, the cases are worthy of more than passing notice. The firms were charged with neglecting to comply with section 4 of the Act, which provides that—"Upon the sale of any manure, whether paid for at the time of sale or not, the vendor shall at the time of sale, or before delivery of the same or part thereof, give to the purchaser an invoice certificate, signed by the vendor or his agents, stating the full name and place of business of the vendor, the distinguishing brand of the manure, the quantity of manure in the sale, and the proportion per centum in which such manures contain the following ingredients:—Nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, and the forms in which they respectively occur." In defence ignorance was pleaded, and in inflicting nominal fines of 5s in each case, the bench pointed out that for first offences a fine not exceeding £5 could be imposed, and intimated that subsequent breaches of the act would be met with a heavy penalty. The proceedings were set on foot by the Department of Agriculture, which at present is taking active steps in regard to the quality of the fertilisers on the market. In the interest of farmers the agricultural societies should take every advantage of the Department's offer to conduct analyses free of charge. It is easy for farmers to be told that such and such a brand contains certain percentages of the fertilising element, but as adulteration in all products is so rife, he needs to have the representations confirmed from an independent source, and the Department recognising the position has acted accordingly. This action will be welcomed alike by reputable makers and purchasers, as they are both in need of a safeguard against those of an unscrupulous turn. It is poor satisfaction for a man to buy and go to the trouble of drilling in with the seed an article possessing as many growth-producing qualities as sawdust, for in addition to the personal loss sustained, a reflection is cast on the practice of artificial manuring. In protecting the farmers in this direction the Department is doing a good work which should be productive of beneficial results.

THE liquor prohibition question in this State has been under public notice for some time, though the excitement of the State elections is putting it in the shade for the time being. While the battle is being fought between the temperance party and the Liquor Trades' Defence Union out here, it is interesting to note that the British Government has introduced a bill for dealing with liquor licenses. The principal features in the measure are that compensation for licenses withheld on the ground of excessive numbers is to be paid by the trade, on the basis of a rate assessment by which houses of £15 are to pay £1 per year, less than £20, £2, and so on up to £150 a year assessment. It is expected that this will return a revenue amounting to £1,000,000 a year, but so numerous are the hotels that it is held that this will not be sufficient to provide compensation for houses that are closed. The proposal is accepted by the trade concerned, and though the effect of the measure will be bad for those who have to go out of business, the controlling interests and those who are likely to remain in occupation believe that their prospects will be improved by the sorting out process. The trade looked on the measure as one that would safeguard their interests, and for this reason it met the opposition of the teetotal party, and leading members condemned it as purely and simply a scheme for the endowment of public houses. Mr. Balfour, on the other hand, held that the bill will be an inducement to men of substance and good character to conduct a necessary and legitimate business. As an effort to regulate the drink traffic, the operation of the act should contain many valuable lessons, and at the outset it is recognised that the traffic is one that cannot be wiped out, though there is every possibility of controlling it. It has yet to be shown where prohibition has succeeded in its object, and in seeking to control the traffic on reasonable lines a medium course is aimed at. If the liquor trade here would agree to a rate for the purpose of establishing a compensation fund, the present difficulty between the teetotal and liquor trade parties would probably be bridged over, but prohibition without compensation is a harsh operation. An altogether new way out is suggested by a scheme which has been formulated by a conference between the Council of the Churches and the Trades Hall Council. The main feature is that the State shall control and manage the liquor traffic, and at the end of five years' notice to holders of licenses, the Government should acquire by purchase or rental, as rapidly as the finances will allow, the hotels in existence. The scheme provides in the meantime for a large reduction in the present number of hotels, and has suggested a scale of one house to 500 of the population of Melbourne, one to 600 in rural districts, and one to 1000 in urban districts. It is proposed that the distribution of the profits accruing from the State management shall be allocated on the following basis:—Half to the support of public hospitals, asylums and houses for the aged and enfeebled persons, and the other half for the establishment and maintenance in the various districts of institutions and to supply public needs for recreative purposes. The scheme aims for the abolition of grocers' licenses and the effective regulation of clubs, so that the principle of the bill will not be defeated. There is room in the present Licensing Act for improvement without dealing unfairly with those in the trade, and it may be that the agitation now in progress, while not achieving the complete objects aimed at, and which would be of questionable utility, will result in some good being done.

To secure industrial peace is ever a noble object to aim for, as industrial battles are to be avoided. Their effects are ever deadly, and very frequently felt most severely by those whose interest in the question at issue is of a secondary nature. Then again strikes are frequently accompanied by bloodshed, as witness the strike of miners at Colorado at the present. The dispute at the Outtrim coal mines was of long standing, the feeling was bitter, hardship was involved, and all to what purpose? No one derived any benefit, while the coal-mine proprietaries, the men and the industry suffered proportionate loss, though the first-named might find some compensation in the fact that they came out of the struggle victorious. The Commonwealth Compulsory Arbitration Bill is put forward with the stated object of promoting industrial peace, but it is asserted on behalf of the Employers' Federation that the definite aim of the measure is the building up of unionism. This would have a double-edged application, and the results of the operation of the measure would be reflected back on the industrial classes. This view finds confirmation in the report of Dr. Clark, the special commissioner of the Washington Bureau of Labor, who, as the result of an investigation into the industrial legislation of New Zealand, came to the conclusion that the whole scheme for the arbitration of disputes set up there must stand or fall in the form of unionism that it created. Whether this vital alliance was or was not a fatal defect in the law was another question. Dr. Clark states that the constitution of the United States will not permit the granting of preference to unionists, as it was an infringement of the liberty of the subject, but whether this is so or not, the fact remains that the labor unions in the State exercise a powerful influence, and there are not many employers who care to put the issue to the test. Dr. Clark finds that in New Zealand this law has tended to the creation of monopolies, by forcing the employers into unions for their own defence. This position would be even worse than the one now existing, as we would have two actively organised bodies, each eager to take any advantage of the other, and any actual peace would be further off than ever; both sides would be maintaining a sort of industrial guerillia war, not on open conflict, but simply a pot shot whenever the chance occurred. The organisations of employers would have another effect, that of restricting competition, and this would come back on the worker. A combination of millers in New Zealand has forced up the price of bread food, and the people have requested the Government to extend its socialistic principles by starting State flour mills. This serves to illustrate what may yet further happen if legislation is to force the hand of the employer all over Australia. Let us by all means be able to settle industrial quarrels by pacific means, which will avoid the cruel and unsatisfactory strike, but do not let there be any attempt at legislating for the advancement of unionism pure and simple, and the restricting and bottling up of private enterprise.

Local and General News.

For Bronchial Coughs take Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

The report of Mr D. F. Troy's remarks, as chairman of directors, in moving the adoption of the reports and balance-sheet at the half-yearly meeting of the Barton Quartz Co. last week, scarcely conveys the meaning intended. The board since last month have been sitting without fees, and are only meeting monthly to save travelling expenses.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY not only cures colds and influenza, but counteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. It always cures and cures quickly. Sold by J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

The annual examination of the Snake Valley State school took place on 21st and 22nd instant, 150 children being examined. The result is highly gratifying to the teachers, Mr C. Hyland and staff. The district inspector, Mr Jackson, expressed himself as being thoroughly satisfied with the efficient state of the school. Four merit certificates and 18 standard certificates were secured. The inspector stated that the percentage of passes secured by the upper classes was the highest yet secured under the new system of examination in his district.

'LINEM CATHARTICUM PILLS' of Mountain Flax. Agreeably Aperient. Worthy of trial.

Applications are invited by the Shire of Ripon, till 11 a.m. on Monday, 4th July, for the position of keeper of the Beaufort weigh-bridge, at a commission of half the fees.

Tenders are invited by the Shire of Ripon, till 11 a.m. on Monday, 4th July, for spreading maintenance metal and supplying and spreading gravel at Skipton, and also for reforming, spreading maintenance metal, and supplying and spreading gravel near McIntosh's corner, Eurambeen.

The marvellous Hellers, who are drawing crowded houses in Ballarat, intend paying a visit to Beaufort on Wednesday evening next, and will appear at the Societies' Hall. These entertainers are highly spoken of, as they give a refined, mystifying, amusing and interesting entertainment; therefore a treat is in store for those who can manage to get to see them. Professor Heller is an entertainer of high rank; Madame Heller, while in a state of trance, answers questions thought of by the audience; Mr J. Norrie is a vocalist, and Mr J. A. Dodds a musical specialist. In addition to the company, the very latest bio-tableau pictures will be shown. The subjects are sporting, dramatic, amusing and sensational scenes, as well as the very latest craze, which has been the talk of Ballarat, viz., a handsomely colored picture, entitled "A Trip to the Moon."

The half-yearly meeting of the I.O.R. Lodge, Progress Tent, No. 43, was held in the Societies' Hall, Beaufort, on Friday, 17th inst., when P.C.R. Bro. Geo. Taylor installed the following officers into their respective offices for the ensuing half-year:—Sitting P.C.R., Bro. Chas. Wright, jun.; C.R., Bro. J. R. Hughes; D.R., Bro. W. G. Stevens; writing steward, Bro. H. Cheeseman; money steward, Bro. H. Buchanan; Levites, Bro. A. Freeman and Sister Elsie Andrews; guard, Sister E. Mitchell; treasurer, Bro. J. P. Rogers; secretaries, Bros. Carroll and Pringle; auditors, Bros. E. J. Muntz and N. Davey; press correspondent, Mr G. Pringle. On Wednesday night last a social was held in the Societies' Hall, in connection with the above Lodge. There were about 120 present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The programme consisted of songs, recitations, tableaux, games, and readings, after which a good supper, provided by the members, was partaken of. At the conclusion, Bro. J. R. Hughes, C.R., thanked the members for such a large attendance, and said he felt satisfied that they had all spent a very enjoyable time. The singing of "God save the King" terminated the meeting.

A leading commercial man, in referring to the general dulness at present prevailing in Ballarat, said that things would be in a "terrible condition" with the working classes were it not for the operations of the Phœnix Foundry, woollen mills, and McKay's Sunshine Harvester works. Each of these establishments is employing a large amount of labor, and at the harvester works men are engaged day and night in getting out orders for foreign export. These industries have been raised under the protective policy of Victoria, and if they did not exist hundreds of hands now receiving good wages would be idle, if not starving, with those depending upon them.

Regret was expressed throughout the district of Snake Valley on Thursday when it became known that Miss Nellie Treleaven, youngest daughter of the late Mr William Treleaven, had passed away. She had been a victim of consumption for some years, but was able to follow her usual work until a fortnight ago, when she was attacked by the prevailing epidemic, influenza. She was 23 years of age.

The Carngham branch of the A.N.A. met on Wednesday, when the secretary submitted the balance-sheet for the half-year, which showed receipts to the sick fund amounted to £37 7s 6d (this, with a previous credit balance, brought the total up to £116 19s), and the expenditure was £25 7s 4d; leaving a credit balance of £91 11s 8d. The incidental fund stood: Receipts £40 16s 1d, and expenditure £40 4s; leaving a credit balance of 12s 1d. Contingency fund receipts, £11 0s 9d; expenditure, £2 14s 6d; leaving a credit balance of £8 6s 3d. One of the auditors had declined to audit the branch's books, and the president inflicted a fine of 2s 6d pending an explanation from that gentleman; and the position was declared vacant, and another auditor nominated.

In the new Local Government Act there are several rather important alterations which should be noted by those interested in municipal matters, now that the annual elections are approaching. In the past, the time for the lodging of nomination papers was the day prior to nomination day. This always caused a lot of confusion, but under the new order of things nomination papers can be lodged on the advertised day of nomination. Under the old Act retiring councillors ceased to be representatives from nomination day, but now those councillors who retire remain in office till the day of election; and, in the event of a new councillor being elected, he cannot take his seat before the fourth Thursday in August. Regarding the status of the mayor or president, it is distinctly set forth that he shall vacate his office on the day prior to the first meeting of the council after the annual election, or ceasing to be a councillor (excepting he is one of the councillors retiring by rotation at the annual election, and is re-elected), or on resigning his office as chairman, or on being declared ousted by the Governor-in-Council.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Beaufort branch A.N.A. was held in the lodge room, Societies' Hall, on Tuesday evening; Mr J. M. Carroll (president), in the chair, and a fair attendance of members present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Two full benefit members were elected, and one proposed. The secretary reported one member on the lodge, one having declared off. Accounts to the amount of £4 16s 8d were passed for payment. Mr Muntz moved, and Mr Prentice seconded, that the syllabus as drawn up be adopted. Carried. Mr J. M. Prentice moved, and Mr Hill seconded, that a letter be forwarded to Mr F. C. Wainwright, congratulating him on his recovery from a recent illness. Carried. Mr Muntz moved, and Mr Sargeant seconded, that the president, treasurer, and secretary be empowered to withdraw £75 from the current account for investment, and that the same be empowered to pay Board dues. Carried. President Carroll, on behalf of the branch, presented to Mr Muntz an ex-president's certificate, and in doing so took the opportunity of eulogising his work as president. The certificate, which was very large and handsome, and suitably framed, was unique in so far as printing, design, material, and frame were all of Australian workmanship. Mr Muntz suitably returned thanks. The treasurer reported that the contributions for the evening amounted to £16 4s 6d.

Bonnington's Irish Moss
The Universal Remedy for Colds, Bronchitis and Influenza.
SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, for Coughs and Colds never fails. 1s. 6d.

During the past week the weather at Beaufort has been extremely cold and wet. On Monday morning 90 points of rain was registered; on Tuesday, 5 points; Wednesday, 32 points; Thursday, 38 points; and Friday, 4 points; making a total of 172 points for the week. A thunderstorm passed over the district on Tuesday afternoon, and at Waterloo the storm was accompanied by a heavy fall of hailstones.

A plague of mice similar to what occurred several years ago has set in through the Victorian north. In the newly sown crops in the Horsham district they are found in scores of thousands. Several acres have been re-sown owing to the mice eating the grain. They also get in chaff and straw stacks, doing a great deal of damage. One farmer on the plains caught 12,000 mice in one night, and another at Vectis East caught 1000.

An annual vote of £8250 is contributed by the Government to the Railway Department for the carriage and use of Victorian coal, the assumption being that it costs the department more to carry coal to Melbourne than the freight rates at present in force, and also that the use of Gippsland coal as fuel is more costly. With the object of encouraging the local industry, the Cabinet has decided to continue the contribution for another year.

A Gippsland farmer states that he forwarded to Melbourne 9 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. of potatoes, which were sold at £1 per ton. The freight was £4 10s 8d, the commission 9s 7d, and he received a cheque for £4 14s, out of which he had to deduct for bags £2 0s 6d, digging £2 13s, twine 7d, and cartage £1 5s, or a total of £5 19s 1d, thus sustaining the loss of 25s 1d irrespective of the cost of the seed or the preparation of the ground.

As giving some idea of the quantity of land occupied as closed roads, for which neither rent nor fee is paid, it is stated that in the shire of Oxley, in the Beechworth district, alone there are 400 roads closed or partially closed. In the adjoining shire of North Ovens there are 50 closed roads. The engineers in both shires have been instructed to prepare returns of the areas, in order that the local council may deal with them.

Owing to the large area of unoccupied lands in the Fern Tree Gully district, near Melbourne, for which no rates have been paid for over five years, together with the fact that the owners of the land cannot be found, the shire council has decided to take possession of such properties, in accordance with sections 332, 333 and 334 of the Local Government Act of 1903.

The butter trade is naturally a slippery business, and (says "Atticus," in the Leader") it is not surprising that the pursuit of such a calling should have developed some few slippery customers, but the number of the slippery ones in the Victorian trade would appear to be out of all due proportion with the fair dealers. The local Perkins Middlewick bears no resemblance to that once typical butterman. Perkins was a comparatively unsophisticated and innocent old gentleman, and so honest that he would have experienced the extremest difficulty in keeping his head above water amongst some of the reputable confidence gentlemen who have dabbled in butter here and hereabouts. Victorians are charmed to know how highly their efforts to encourage the dairying industry in their State have been appreciated by the gentlemen who shared the profits and the bonuses. The middleman appears to have grasped everything, butter included, while he joined heartily in every local political movement for elevating the country producer, and helping him against his malignant enemies, the democracy of Melbourne. I really wonder that so many smart young men waste their time and talents hanging about Melbourne waiting to victimise country visitors with match box tricks and the like. Why, in the name of common sense, don't they go into the butter trade?

The whole of the work of the post offices throughout Australia has been valued, and the post offices classified in grades in accordance with the volume of the business passing through such post offices. In this way many of these offices have been raised in status, while necessarily, through the falling off in business at many of them, it has been reduced, and when the classification is issued the department will be called upon to re-arrange the officers, so that those who are best entitled by service and seniority to the higher or better positions will obtain them. Meanwhile, the present occupants will remain at their present positions and salaries until the re-arrangement can be effected. The post offices have been graded into 15 classes, with a minimum salary of £120 per annum ranging up to £450. The telegraph operators (who are now to be designated "telegraphists") have been classified in grades, two-thirds of the total number having been placed in the fifth class of the clerical division, and the remaining one-third in the fourth class. The salaries in the fourth-class range from £185 to £335 per annum. Prior to the classification there was an enormous number of different designations throughout the States by which the officers were known. The particular designation in many cases was no indication of the work performed, and rarely was it that the designation was common to more than two of the States. With the view of simplifying the work in this direction, the Commissioner has reduced the number of different designations by more than one-half. Accompanying the report is a diagram showing the line of promotion to every officer in the general division under the Postal Department. It shows an officer's lines of promotion from the time he enters the department as a telegraph messenger or a telephone attendant until he reaches the highest positions in the general division. The following is the rating of the various officers in the Beaufort Post Office:—Miss G. M. Creagh, postmistress at £144, to be postmistress of 13th grade at £160. B. E. Carthew, junior postal assistant at £66, to be assistant at £72. W. P. McConochie, telegraph messenger at £26, to get the same.

A married woman, residing at Geelong, has recently given birth to remarkable twins. Two or three days ago the woman gave birth to a male child, and a fortnight before a female child was born.

Probate has been granted to the will of the late Rev. Robert Meade, whose estate is valued at £1470.

'LINSEED COMPOUND.' Trade Mark of Kay's Compound Essence of Linseed, for Coughs and Colds.

Correspondence.

We do not in any way identify ourselves with the opinions expressed by our correspondents. It is desired that letters to the editor shall be accompanied by the real name and address of the writer, not for absolute publication, but as a *bona fide* guarantee.

LAKE GOLDSMITH AND RABBITS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—In your last issue there is a seeker after information regarding the council's actions re the above. While agreeing with your correspondent's queries, I would like to make a few comments on this matter. I consider the employment of two men at £2 per week each, and ammunition, is quite uncalled for, and is in fact a sinful waste, as there are plenty of persons who would be only too glad to trap there during the winter if they had the chance; in fact the local boys and sportsmen would keep the rabbits in check themselves, whereas the council's employés ruthlessly shoot and waste what many a poor person would be glad to get these hard times. Rabbits at present are nowise plentiful at the lake, and if even distant landowners were compelled to keep their properties clear, there would hardly be any there, as on the northern and eastern shores (where this *is* done) they are comparatively few. It is well-known the rabbits prefer the green feed on the lake margin during the summer, and come from the dry feed further back. I doubt very much if the two men now employed will get six hundred in a month. If money must be spent this way, why not call tenders for keeping the reserve clear at so much per annum, payment by results?—Yours, &c.,

OBSERVER.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—In reply to your correspondent, "A West Riding Ratepayer," I beg to state that so far as I am aware it was never decided that the Council were not to spend any more money in the destruction of rabbits on Lake Goldsmith and to leave the work to be done by those ratepayers benefiting by the use of the foreshore of the lake. I would point out to "A West Riding Ratepayer" that if the pest increased and the rabbit inspector issued a notice to destroy same, the notice would be served on the council; and failing the notice being attended to, the council would be summoned, and not the ratepayers benefiting by the use of the foreshore of the lake. Under these circumstances, the council have no option but to destroy the rabbits and keep them in check. With regard to the responsibility of getting the work done, and the appointment of the men at present at work, this was undertaken by Cr. Stewart and myself. As regards no mention of this matter, and not coming before the council, the facts are as follows:—At the April meeting of the council, a letter was received from the Trawalla Estate, pointing out the increase of rabbits on the lake, and requesting that steps be taken to destroy same. The letter was received, and the matter was left in the hands of the West riding members, with power to act. Cr. Stewart and I undertook to attend to the matter, as we resided close to the lake.—Yours, &c.,

GEORGE LEWIS.

Stoneleigh, 22/6/04.

The Scripture Referendum.

AN ANALYSIS ASKED FOR.

The Bishop of Melbourne has written to the Premier (Mr Bent), asking, in the name of the Scripture Campaign Council, to be furnished with an analysis of the voting in the recent referendum. Dr. Clarke says:—"We feel that you will recognise the reasonableness of this request. The form in which the returns have been made public presents apparently contradictory conclusions, and we desire to know how many persons voted 'Yes' to all the three questions, and how many 'No,' and, further, what number of voting papers was issued, together with the number returned, and also the number of informal ones. We should also be glad to know how many answered less than a full number of questions. As we feel sure the Government desires to present the result to the electors in the fullest detail, we will await these figures before drawing any inferences from the vote." If the Premier decides to comply with the request, it means that the officers of the Electoral branch must examine each voting paper, and note how the answers were given. This will be a long and tedious task, and it is probable that extra clerical assistance will be required.

The Premier (Mr Bent) states that he has decided to place the request of the Scripture Campaign Council before the Cabinet. The council, through the Bishop of Melbourne, asked for an analysis of the votes cast for and against the various questions at the recent referendum. Mr Bent says that is "a big order," and he desires to obtain the opinion of the Cabinet on it before making any statement.

There's dozens of remedies mother has tried,
If we hadn't been strong, I expect we'd have died.
For weeks we've been moping and swallowing trash,
And when there's a lot it walks into the cash.
I agreed with my Dad, who says "WOODS is a brick"
For showing the world how to cure a cold quick;
No need to be laid up for weeks, when you may
Take PEPPERMINT CURE, and be well in a day.

The results of a series of experiments made under the auspices of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale with the object of determining whether the average human being does not eat too much, afford, according to the "British Medical Journal," decisive proof that he does. The experiments were made on three classes of men—several professors of the school, some students and a squad of United States soldiers. In nearly all the tests meat was gradually reduced, with little, if any, increase in starch and other foods. No fixed regimen was required in any case, the endeavor being to satisfy the appetite of each subject. The experiments, which lasted a period of from six months to nearly a year, ended a short time ago, when, according to Professor Chittenden, all his subjects were in the best of health. Their weight in some cases was almost exactly the same as when the experiments were begun, in some slightly lower. Their bodily vigor was greater and their strength was much greater, partly owing to their regular physical exercises during the experiments, and partly owing, Professor Chittenden believes, to the smaller amount of food eaten. The daily consumption of food at the close of the experiments was much less than the recognised standard, and from a third to half as much as the average man eats.

Bed Sores.—Whisky or brandy used as a lotion may prevent these. For commencing sores use white of egg rubbed up with alum.

'LINSEED COMPOUND.' The 'Stockport Remedy' for Coughs and Colds. Of 38 years' proven efficacy.

OUTCAST OF M

PART 10.

CHAPTER XIX.

GUESTS WHO WERE NOT IN

Rosabel of Bergamo could fin of escape from the fate whic pronounced by her guardian. hausted every resource of thou vention without [illegible]. The da which had been appointed, and mercy of the tyrant. All ni been awake, meditating upon doom; and with the light of threw herself upon her couch. bear up as best she could. She to Heaven for strength, and she had received it—strength to through the coming ordeal, and give her passage from the dan She might be called the wife of she could see no way to avoid hoped that she might never pr her true love.

She lay thus upon her couch face buried in her hands, when t announced.

"Let him come in," she sai arose and met him in the chamb "How is this?" he demande saw her pale face and her dishe "Are you thinking of escape?"

"No, my lord—not of escape my own. If my prayers canno I have no hope."

"Bah! We have had enough Holiness is here, and all is re marriage. You must join us as can. And, lady, remember thi on your part can delay the Should you faint, even, and sin bed, the work should be don less."

"I understand you, sir," repl cess, standing erect, and speakin resolution. "I shall not seek to more unc omfortable than you planned. I am not blind enough that the famished wolf can be his prey by the timid, helpl know that you seek to unite the gamo and Milan—that you are d possess for your son the wealth an gained; and as it can only com my hand, I know that I must s am ready, sir; and I only ask th cause the ceremonies to be as s ible."

The duke exhibited no anger en's freedom of speech. He pleased than otherwise by her s

"Can you be ready in half a asked.

"If Blanche can come and hel Manfred promised to send th shortly after he withdrew she

"My dear lady," Blanche sai in her eyes, "I cannot help y watched upon all hands, and—"

"Stop," interrupted the p only wish you to help me dress for other help is gone. But you one question: Do you k thing has been heard from O drune?"

"I have heard nothing."

"That is all. You may brin now."

The girl proceeded with h silence, and when her mistress in her bridal robes she stood bac her eyes.

"I wish to be alone a moment The attendant withdrew to th and then Rosabel went to her and took from a secret draw dagger which Vendorme ha her.

"This may be my last frien she murmured, as she gazed up glittering point. The wicke Milan shall never know Rosabe NEVER!"

She hid the dagger in her bo long afterwards a messenger the duke.

* * * * *

John XVII., the Pope of Ro the duke's side in the apartm had been arranged that the ma mony should be performed.

"Ha, ha," said Manfred, as distant tumult fell upon his ear, are already making merry on They shall have a glorious tim the marriage is over."

"You have made arrangemen then?"

"No, the prince has made t thought best that Ludovico the people this time."

"A wise thought," said the well to keep them busy wit Ah—here comes the prince."

Ludovico, accompanied by Castro and several other officers household, entered the apartm presented to His Holiness.

In a little while, by another Rosabel of Bergamo with two The duke approached her an the Pope.

"Rosabel, this is our holy fa From an impulse of her natu the papal office as something h shipful, she bowed her head crossed her arms upon her Pope placed his hand upon her a blessing, after which he said:

"My daughter, it gives me you; and you will allow me to you upon the bright prospect t fore you."

"I think we are ready," said

"All ready," replied Ludo same time advancing and takin cess by the hand. He was star found how cold her hand was, no remark upon it.

The herald made proclama effect that Rosabel of Bergam united in marriage to Ludovic He did not ask if any were could give a just reason why should not take place, but in th of, he said:

"And to this union the Pope given holy sanction, so let no neither now, nor hereafter!"

The Pope now advanced t couple stood, and in a very few had pronounced them man and bel had not opened her lips questions were asked, but her not heeded. Willing, or u was given to Ludovico, and the diction was pronounced upon t

"Keep her not here," whispere turning to one of the female "Convey her to her apartmen ly as possible." He saw that s weak, and he feared that she n the presence of the witnesses.

But Rosabel did not faint th firm step she walked from t right hand clutching someth carried in her bosom.

"Now," cried the duke, hands, "the work is done! people are shouting again. The the time hath arrived. De proclamation be made from th the prince is married!"

"It seems to me, my lord, cals are taking some liberty," tain, as a furious shout rent th

"Aye," added Ludovico, fist, "and they seem to into the palace. Did you in the marriage feast?"

"No," returned Manfred. all that for you to do."

"But they are coming. Ha even now upon the stairs."

"De Castro," ordered the du his foot impatiently, "go an villains back!"

The captain turned to obey t but ere he had taken many ste door was thrown open, and a s knights came tramping into th

"How now!" exclaimed quivering from head to foot. H and he was frightened, too.

The first to advance and sp Saxon knight, Frederic Von B

"Manfred of Milan," he said, mailed hand upon his hip, "we

rrespondence.

…n any way identify ourselves …as expressed by our correspon…sired that letters to the editor …panied by the real name and …writer, not for absolute pub… a *bona fide* guarantee.

…DSMITH AND RABBITS.

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…lot it walks into the cash… …nd, who says "WOODS is a

…rid how to cure a cold quick; …n for weeks, when you may …URE, and be well in a day. …A series of experiments …uspices of the Sheffield …f Yale with the object of …her the average human …too much, afford, accord… …sh Medical Journal," de… …does. The experiments …three classes of men— … of the school, some …quad of United States …y all the tests meat was …, with little, if any, … and other foods. No …required in any case, the …satisfy the appetite of …e experiments, which …an six months to nearly …port time ago, when, …essor Chittenden, all his …e best of health. Their …ses was almost exactly …the experiments were …siderably lower. Their …ess and their strength …partly owing to their …exercises during the …partly owing, Professor …s, to the smaller amount …e daily consumption of … the experiments was …e recognised standard, …half as much as the

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OUTCAST OF MILAN

PART 10.

CHAPTER XIX.

GUESTS WHO WERE NOT INVITED.

Rosabel of Bergamo could find no means of escape from the fate which had been pronounced by her guardian. She had exhausted every resource of thought and invention without effect. The day had come which had been appointed, and she was at the mercy of the tyrant. All night she had been awake, meditating upon her fearful doom; and with the light of morning she threw herself upon her couch, resolved to bear up as best she could. She had prayed to Heaven for strength, and she believed she had received it—strength to support her through the coming ordeal, and strength to give her passage from the danger beyond. She might be called the wife of Ludovico—she could see no way to avoid it; but she hoped that she might never prove false to her true love.

She lay thus upon her couch, with her face buried in her hands, when the duke was announced.

"Let him come in," she said; and she arose and met him in the chamber.

"How is this?" he demanded, when he saw her pale face and her dishevelled hair. "Are you thinking of escape?"

"No, my lord—not of escape by force of my own. If my prayers cannot move you, I have no hope."

"Bah! We have had enough of that. His Holiness is here, and all is ready for the marriage. You must join us as soon as you can. And, lady, remember this: No failure on your part can delay these services. Should you faint, even, and sink upon your bed, the work should be done nevertheless."

"I understand you, sir," replied the princess, standing erect, and speaking with much resolution. "I shall not seek to make myself more uncomfortable than you have already planned. I am not blind enough to suppose that the famished wolf can be driven from his prey by the timid, helpless lamb. I know that you seek to unite the house of Bergamo and Milan—that you are determined to possess for your son the wealth and power thus gained; and as it can only come to you by my hand, I know that I must surrender. I am ready, sir; and I only ask that you will cause the ceremonies to be as brief as possible."

The duke exhibited no anger at the maiden's freedom of speech. He was rather pleased than otherwise by her surrender.

"Can you be ready in half an hour?" he asked.

"If Blanche can come and help me."

Manfred promised to send the girl; and shortly after he withdrew she came.

"My dear lady," Blanche said, with tears in her eyes, "I cannot help you. We are watched upon all hands, and—"

"Stop," interrupted the princess. "I only wish you to help me dress. The time for other help is gone. But I would ask one question: Do you know if anything has been heard from Orlando Vendorme?"

"I have heard nothing."

"That is all. You may bring my dress now."

The girl proceeded with her work in silence, and when her mistress was arrayed in her bridal robes she stood back and wiped her eyes.

"I wish to be alone a moment, Blanche."

The attendant withdrew to the bed-room, and then Rosabel went to her dressing-case and took from a secret drawer the little dagger which Vendorme had given to her.

"This may be my last friend of earth!" she murmured, as she gazed upon the sharp, glittering point. The wicked prince of Milan shall never know Rosabel as a wife—NEVER!"

She hid the dagger in her bosom, and not long afterwards a messenger arrived from the duke.

* * * * * * *

John XVII., the Pope of Rome, stood by the duke's side in the apartment where it had been arranged that the marriage ceremony should be performed.

"Ha, ha," said Manfred, as the sound of distant tumult fell upon his ear, "my people are already making merry on the occasion. They shall have a glorious time of it when the marriage is over."

"You have made arrangements for sports then?"

"No, the prince has made them. I have thought best that Ludovico should please the people this time."

"A wise thought," said the Pope. "It is well to keep them busy with something. Ah—here comes the prince."

Ludovico, accompanied by Hugh de Castro and several other officers of the ducal household, entered the apartment, and were presented to His Holiness.

In a little while, by another door, entered Rosabel of Bergamo with two attendants. The duke approached her and introduced the Pope.

"Rosabel, this is our holy father, John."

From an impulse of her nature, regarding the papal office as something holy and worshipful, she bowed her head down, and crossed her arms upon her bosom. The Pope placed his hand upon her, and uttered a blessing, after which he said:

"My daughter, it gives me joy to greet you; and you will allow me to congratulate you upon the bright prospect that opens before you."

"I think we are ready," said Manfred.

"All ready," replied Ludovico, at the same time advancing and taking the princess by the hand. He was startled when he found how cold her hand was, but he made no remark upon it.

The herald made proclamation to the effect that Rosabel of Bergamo was to be united in marriage to Ludovico of Milan. He did not ask if any were present who could give a just reason why the marriage should not take place, but in the stead thereof, he said:

"And to this union the Pope of Rome hath given holy sanction, so let no man object, neither now, nor hereafter!"

The Pope now advanced to where the couple stood, and in a very few moments he had pronounced them man and wife. Rosabel had not opened her lips. The usual questions were asked, but her silence was not heeded. Willing, or unwilling, she was given to Ludovico, and the papal benediction was pronounced upon the union!"

"Keep her not here," whispered the prince, turning to one of the female attendants. "Convey her to her apartments as quickly as possible." He saw that she was very weak, and he feared that she might faint in the presence of the witnesses.

But Rosabel did not faint there. With a firm step she walked from the room, her right hand clutching something that she carried in her bosom.

"Now," cried the duke, clapping his hands, "the work is done! Ha—and the people are shouting again. They know that the time hath arrived. De Castro, let proclamation be made from the towers that the prince is married!"

"It seems to me, my lord, that the rascals are taking some liberty," said the captain, as a furious shout rent the air.

"Aye," added Ludovico, clenching his fist, "and they seem to be crowding into the palace. Did you invite them to the marriage feast?"

"No," returned Manfred. "I have left all that for you to do."

"But they are coming. Hark! they are even now upon the stairs."

"De Castro," ordered the duke, stamping his foot impatiently, "go and drive the villains back!"

The captain turned to obey the command, but ere he had taken many steps, the large door was thrown open, and a score of armed knights came tramping into the apartment.

"How now!" exclaimed the duke, quivering from head to foot. He was angry, and he was frightened, too.

The first to advance and speak was the Saxon knight, Frederic Von Brunt.

"Manfred of Milan," he said, striking his mailed hand upon his hip, "we have come to set free a prisoner."

"Insolent!" cried Ludovico, turning pale with rage.

"Nevertheless," resumed Von Brunt, "our work must be done. We demand the person of—"

"I have him not," said the duke, speaking before his time.

"Have not whom?"

"That dog of a Vendorme. You will have to seek elsewhere for him."

"Ah, my lord duke, you anticipate too much," replied the stout Saxon, with a smile. "It is not of Orlando Vendorme that we are now in search. I think, however, that you have been expecting some slight return from the person of that gallant champion. Is it not so?"

"It matters not what I have expected," answered Manfred, clutching nervously at his sword-hilt.

"Never mind," continued Von Brunt. "When you hear from Vendorme, the message will not come as you have been expecting. But now another person is meant. We demand of you Rosabel of Bergamo."

"Death and perdition," yelled the duke, stamping his foot till the very walls rang, "am I to be bearded thus? What means this outrageous intrusion? De Castro, call in my guard! Bid my men-at-arms attend me here. I'll teach these dogs a lesson!"

"Easy, my lord duke," said the Saxon, unsheathing his sword as he spoke. "You see we have the advantage here. Your captain cannot move, save at your pleasure."

"Frederic Von Brunt speaks truly," spoke another of the knights, advancing from his companions.

"Alfonso of Modena, is it you?"

"Yes, Manfred," replied the count.

"Then," cried the duke, moving back a step, "to perdition whith the whole of you! Down, down, base men—down upon your knees! You are in the presence of the Pope!"

Upon being thus introduced, John XVII. approached, and spread out his arms towards the intruding knights.

"Not now," said Von Brunt, coolly waving the pontiff back. "The presence of the Pope cannot be allowed to interfere with the business we have in hand."

As John moved slowly away, the duke turned and whispered to one of his attendants, who immediately afterwards slipped out by a side door. Von Brunt saw the movement, but he did not see fit to interfere.

"My lord duke," he said, "I once more demand of you the princess Rosabel. If you do not bring her, I shall send for her."

"Wait—wait," replied Manfred. "You shall have your answer soon enough."

Just then the attendant, who had gone out by the side door but a moment before, returned, pale and trembling.

"How now, dog! Where are the guard?" Where are the archers?"

"My lord," returned the messenger, quivering more than before, "the guard are all under restraint and the archers are drawn up under command of Michael Totilla, who refuses to obey any order save such as shall come from Frederic Von Brunt."

"By the Lord of Lords!" gasped Manfred, clenching his fists, and stamping upon the floor, "this is some base conspiracy! I'll have my guardsmen here if I have to cut the cordon with my own sword. Stand back, dogs! Stand back, I say!"

"I see we are to have little choice in this matter," said Von Brunt. "Where is Gaspard?"

"Here, Sir Frederic," replied the Saxon esquire, stepping forward.

"Go and call the armorer, and bid him follow you with a score of his men."

As Gaspard went out, the Saxon knight turned again to the duke.

"My Lord Duke of Milan, you shall soon be answered to your satisfaction. If you think it best to try the virtue of your sword, you can have ample accommodation, but I would advise you to remain quiet."

Like a man who moved from some deadly danger unseen, did the duke stagger back, and rest the point of his sword upon the floor.

Twice had Ludovico started to move forward, and both times had de Castro caught him by the sleeve.

"No, no, my lord," the captain whispered, as he drew the prince back the second time. "I would not oppose them yet. If they seek the princess—which I imagine is some of Alfonso's doing—they will be thwarted at the very moment when they deem their success most sure. Let them do their will."

The prince stood back, for he could not but see that he and his friends were no match for the stout knights of Saxony and Modena.

In a little while Gaspard returned, and with him came Michael Totilla, followed by a score of stout men-at-arms.

"Michael," spoke Von Brunt, moving back a pace, and waving his hand towards the duke and his companions, "secure these gentlemen. They are all your prisoners, save him who wears the vestments of the Pope."

At first both Manfred and Ludovico prepared for resistance, but when they saw how useless such demonstration must be, they surrendered, though with ill grace and with many bitter curses.

When this had been done, Von Brunt turned again to the esquire, who presently introduced into the apartment Hippolita and Cinthia. When de Castro saw his bondwoman with the wife of the armorer, he broke out into a muttering of curses, but no attention was paid to him.

"Now," said Sir Frederic, addressing the women, "we will have the princess. Do you find her and bring her hither."

"By the fiends of darkness!" exclaimed Ludovico, "I think I have a right here!"

He would have spoken farther, but de Castro plucked him again by the sleeve.

"Keep quiet, my lord," the captain whispered. "Let them bring her if they will. They are only working to their own disappointment. When they have her here they shall find that she is your wife, made so by the Pope himself."

The prince stood back, and Hippolita and Cinthia left the apartment.

CHAPTER XX.

CONCLUSION.

Rosabel sat alone in her chamber, still clad in her bridal robes; and in her hand she held the dagger, which she had looked upon as her last source of relief from the terrible doom which had been pronounced upon her. It was a fearful thought—the taking of her own life; but she believed God would pardon her for the deed. She sat thus, murmuring a prayer to Heaven, when her door was opened; and upon looking up she beheld Hippolita and Cinthia. The dagger dropped from her hand, and she started to her feet.

"My dear, dear lady," cried Hippolita, seizing the princess by the hand. "O, you must suffer no more. Come you must go with us. We have been sent to bring you into the presence of friends."

"Merciful Heaven!" gasped Rosabel, leaning upon the bondwoman's shoulder for support, "what mean you? Who are my friends?"

"Gaspard of Saxony is here," replied Hippolita; "and Sir Frederic Von Brunt; and Ludwig Eberhard; and Alfonso of Modena. Are not they your friends?"

"Yes—yes," said Rosabel, in a deep, startling whisper. "But is there another? Is there one more?"

"Do you mean Vendorme?"

"Yes."

"He is safe, lady. But—what ails you? Speak—what is it! Are you faint?"

"O! God have mercy!" the princess groaned resting her head upon Hippolita's bosom. "O! my poor, poor life! This is worse than death!"

"What—what, lady? No, no,—you must not fail now. Come—come with us; and all may yet be well. They are friends who wish to see you—friends whoare able to help you."

"No, no," murmured Rosabel, in tones of deepest anguish; "for me there is help no more on earth. The hour for help is passed. Had you come just one hour sooner—one poor, short hour—there might have been hope for the power of friendship. But," the princess added, looking up, and trying to stand without assistance, "what is this strange thing which has happened?"

"I don't understand it myself," replied Hippolita; "but perhaps Cinthia can tell you something about it."

"I can tell you thus much," said the wife of the armorer: "A little past the hour of noon, while the people were waiting for the announcement of your marriage with the prince, a large cavalcade of knights entered the city by the eastern gate. They were led by Frederic Von Brunt, who seemed to be seconded by the Count of Modena. Whence came their wondrous power I know not; but this I do know, no sooner had they presented themselves to the guards and soldiers than the latter bowed before them, and acknowledged their authority; and thus the very arms upon which the duke might depend for help were turned against him. My husband was called upon, and ordered to take command of the duke's archers, subject to the order of Von Brunt; and Hippolita and myself were ordered to come hither to attend upon the Lady Rosabel. There is something very strange, my dear lady—something which I cannot explain. But come—I think they are waiting for you. Will you not go with us?"

"The hour of help is past for me; but I will go with you. I am ready." And, supported by a dim, shapeless possibility of succor, the princess accompanied the messengers from her chamber.

When the females reached the apartment where the ducal party had been left, they found the knights anxiously waiting for them. Alfonso of Modena stepped quickly forward, and took the princess by the hand.

"Fair cousin," he said, "we have come to help you, and I trust that we are not too late. See—I think here comes one whom you can trust."

As he spoke, the princess looked up and saw, advancing from an open door, Orlando Vendorme. But she did not move to meet him. She turned to Hippolita, and bowed her head upon her shoulder.

"O!" she groaned, "this is dreadful. Let me go to my chamber. I am lost! lost! lost!"

"Death and condemnation!" gasped the duke, when he saw the youthful champion. "Has this dog come back?"

"Ah, Manfred of Milan," said Von Brunt, with a mocking sneer, "you don't see the head of the gallant knight in the place where you expected to see it. But never mind; it is much better as it is, and if you will listen, I will tell you how it has happened. We knights of Saxony, with these noble knights of Wirtemberg and of Bavaria, and with the count of Modena and his right noble knights, have had business in this section of Lombardy. This morning, led by a mountain hunter, we came upon a camp of robbers, and were just in season to save the life of Sir Orlando. Our guide had gone on in advance, and when we arrived we found him bound to a tree, while the villains were making ready to cut off the head of our noble knight. We were in season, thank God! and Vendorme is safe."

"Well, sir, and what of all this?" asked the duke, making a powerful effort to stand up like a ruler. "You have come in force, and, by some strange means gained access to my palace in numbers sufficient to hold me under restraint for a season, but what is it going to benefit you?"

"It may not benefit me at all," replied Von Brunt. "We have come for the benefit of another. We have come to release Rosabel of Bergamo from your base guardianship."

"And perhaps," said Manfred, with a sneer, "you meditate bestowing her hand upon Vendorme?"

"It may be so, my lord duke."

"Ha, ha, ha—you are late this time You may have been in season to snatch Vendorme from the hands of those who would have executed a righteous sentence upon him, but you are not in season to take Rosabel of Bergamo. She has been married, sir! She is the wife of Ludovico!"

"But she was married against her will."

"She was married by his holiness the Pope, whose edict is sacred above all other earthly things. So now, sir knight of Saxony, you have it."

"I have said all I have to say," returned Von Brunt, "and I will now introduce one who may speak to you with more authority. Gaspard, our master is wanted."

The esquire went out, and in a few moments returned, followed by a fair-haired youth whom we have known as Theodore of Hartburg, and with him came a man of middle age, whose garb bespoke him an officer of holy order.

"Make way for the Emperor!" said Alfonso of Modena, at the same time removing his casque and bowing his head, which example was followed by all the noble knights.

"The Emperor!" gasped Manfred, trembling at every joint.

"The Emperor!" echoed John XVII., turning pale as death.

"Yes," said the smooth-faced youth, standing erect before them, and throwing open his doublet, beneath which, upon his breast, flashed the imperial star of Charlemagne. "I am Otho of Germany. I am he who makes and unmakes the princes of Lombardy. Aye, and I am more than that, as you shall see anon. Base tyrant, thou art no longer duke of Milan. When my father gave the scepter into thy hands, he hoped thou wouldst have ruled with justice, but thou hast not done it, and I cast thee out, and the dukedom is no more. To Orlando Vendorme, a just and honorable man, I give the government of this city and its dependencies, and do create him Count of Milan. And furthermore, upon him do I bestow the hand of Rosabel of Bergamo."

"No, no," cried Ludovico, "you cannot do that; Rosabel is my wife."

"When married?" demanded the emperor.

"This very day."

"Fair cousin," said Otho, turning to the princess, who was leaning upon Hippolita for support, "was it of your own free will and accord that you gave your hand to Ludovico?"

"No, no," answered Rosabel, starting up. "I was forced through it all, and not one promise did I make. In my soul, and before Heaven, I am not a wife!"

"But," ventured Ludovico, grasping at the last hope, "his holiness, the Pope, made her my wife, and his holy edic must stand."

"I told you," said Otho, "that I could do more than make and unmake princes. I make and unmake Popes! Base, false man," he continued, turning to John XVII., "your career of vice and infamy is run, and your plots against the Emperor Otho have come to nought. I was in Rome not many days ago, where I cast the conspiring Consul into prison, and deposed you from the pontifical throne."

When the trembling man had been led from the apartment, Otho turned to Rosabel.

"Now, sweet cousin," he said, "you shall wear smiles on your face once more. You are not a wife, for he that professed to marry you was without authority. Still, I think there is one present to whom you would willingly give your hand. Am I not right?"

As he spoke the Emperor had advanced and extended his hand, and as the princess grasped it she bowed her head, murmuring, as she did so:

"Yes, sire. To one who is noble and true have I given my heart and pledged my lasting love."

"It is to Orlando Vendorme?"

"Yes."

"Then the work shall be finished where it has begun, and Manfred and his son shall behold the consummation. Come, Sir Orlando, and let me thus make full payment of the debt I owe thee." He took the hand of the knight, and when he had placed within it the hand of Rosabel of Bergamo, he turned to Gerbert: "Holy father, we await your benediction."

The new-made Pope moved forward, and when he had spoken those magic words which made Orlando Vendorme and Rosabel man and wife, the happy couple knelt before him and received his blessing.

Then, by order of the Emperor, Manfred and Ludovico, and Hugh de Castro, with their immediate attendants, were removed from the apartment, and preparations were made for such a celebration as was fitting to the occasion.

When news was carried to the people that Manfred and Ludovico were in prison, and that Orlando Vendorme had been made ruler in Milan, and that Rosabel of Bergamo had been made his wife, such shouts of joy went up from the old city as had not been heard within its walls for long, long years.

Our story of the Outcast is told, and we have only to add a few words touching the fates of those with whom we have become acquainted during the recital.

Manfred and Ludovico were removed to Germany, where they both died in prison. Hugh de Castro was liberated on condition that he would leave Milan forever.

Michael Totilla was made captain of the guard, and right well did he fill the office. In time he won a golden spur, and few were the knights who cared to meet with him in the list.

Otho III., crowned Emperor at the age of three years, and crowned King of Rome at the age of fifteen, was one of the wisest and most honorable monarchs of his time. The warm friendship which prompted him to elevate his old tutor, Gerbert, to the papal chair, of Gregory V., was extended to further acts; and during the latter part of his reign, he so extended the power of the Pope, that, in after times, the See of Rome was able to dispute for temporal sovereignty with his imperial successors.

Milan and Bergamo, united under the sway of Orlando and Rosabel, enjoyed a season of prosperity such as was rarely known in Lombardy, for the happy prince, whose home was the abode of so much pure joy, knew well how to make joy for his subjects.

THE END.

A Reformed Burglar.

For nearly twelve months I have been a reformed man. Up to Christmas Eve of 1895 I was recognised by my pals as a first-class burglar; but on that night I met with a painful adventure, which I will endeavour to describe.

On the night of which I have been speaking I removed a pane of glass from the kitchen window of a mansion in a fashionable neighbourhood. Then I turned back the catch, raised the window, and entered the house, without taking the trouble to send up my card. There, in the darkness, I adjusted my mask and lighted my lantern. Then I started to make a tour of the premises. I was not long in finding a quantity of things which I desired to possess.

I immediately began gathering them up, preparatory to carting them away. While I was standing on tiptoe in order to reach the top shelf of the china cupboard something remarkable happened. Somebody behind me spoke. It was a man. He said:

"George, here's Santa Claus."

I turned about and reached for my revolver. The next moment the ugly muzzle of a gun was poked into my face.

"Merry Christmas, Santa Claus!" said the young man who held the gun at my head; "delighted to see you. May I be so bold as to ask what you are doing in that cupboard?"

"It was an—an accident," I stammered; "you see I—I made a mistake——"

"Well, don't feel annoyed about it," said the man with the gun. "It's all right, Santa Claus; make yourself at home."

"Invite your friend to step this way, Bob," said another young man, who had been leaning negligently against the mantel, with a big poker in his hand. As he spoke he turned towards a door leading to the adjoining room.

"With pleasure, George. My dear, Santa Claus, will you be so good as to come with us?"

The muzzle of Bob's gun silently repeated the polite invitation, and I had no hesitation in accepting it.

On reaching the next room, the young man with the poker turned to me, and said with a sweeping gesture, in the direction of a big Christmas tree which towered at his side:

"Behold, Santa Claus, what you were doubtless looking for when we intruded upon you. Let me suggest that any little tokens of affection which you choose to leave for the occupants of this house might very well be tied on the branches of this tree, as we very carelessly neglected to hang up our stocking. We shall be happy to render you any little assistance that we can."

"Gentlemen," said I, "if you'll let me explain——"

"Now," exclaimed Bob, "I insist, my dear Santa Claus, that no explanation is necessary. This being Christmas Eve, nothing is more natural than that you should give us a call. I assure you that you are welcome; your appearance is not precisely what I should have expected, but that is a matter of no importance. Now, shall we proceed to business?"

"Anything that suits you, gentlemen," I muttered.

The two were such cool fellows that I was ready to drop with amazement.

"George," said the young man with the gun, "be good enough to assist our distinguished friend to arrange his presents on the Christmas tree."

"With pleasure, Bob. Santa Claus, if you will keep your hands above your head in that graceful position a little longer I will attend to all the minor details of the ceremony."

With that he dived into my pocket and fished out a revolver.

"What a pretty toy!" exclaimed George as he turned it about in his hands. "That will have a charming effect when hung properly."

He mounted a step-ladder, and tied my revolver on the topmost bough of the tree. After that he strung up my dark lantern. Then, in turn, he pulled off my mask, robbed me of my jimmy, a bottle of chloroform, a bunch of skeleton keys, and several little instruments peculiar to my line of business. He also pulled my shoes out of the side-pockets of my short coat, where I had placed them before entering the house for safe-keeping until I should be ready to depart. All these articles he gravely tied on the branches of the Christmas tree.

When George had swung my shoes across a bow, and had trotted down the step-ladder for the last time, he struck an attitude, and said:

"I am charmed, my dear Santa Claus, to have the privilege of returning thanks for these beautiful presents. Your taste is excellent. I trust you will give us permission to distribute them as we choose among the other members of our family. Ah, thanks; I see you consent. And now, Santa Claus, I and my emotional friend at your side have a confession to make. For some years past we have been sceptical regarding your existence?"

I made no attempt to reply to this aggravating rot. After a painful pause, I said:

"Gentlemen, with your permission, I'll be going."

"So soon?" remarked Bob, getting a better grip of his gun. "This is hard," and he pretended to weep.

"I started for the door.

"The chimney is over yonder, Santa Claus," said Bob, wagging his head in the direction of the fireplace.

It took me a full minute to catch his meaning.

"I—I think I'll go by the door," I stammered.

I hoped he was only joking.

"What! Don't you always come and go by way of the chimney?"

"Not always."

"Can it be possible that the story-books are mistaken on this important point? It is cruel to rob us of our childhood's fancies. I think," and Bob held the muzzle of his gun close to my ear—"I think, Santa Claus, we'll cling to the old custom. Oblige us by gliding up the chimney in your own airy fashion."

I hesitated. Another glance at the muzzle of the gun decided me. I said: "All right, gentlemen," I'll not make much trouble about a little thing like that."

I drew off my coat. George caught it up and tossed it into the branches of the Christmas tree. I stuck my head into the chimney. It was a tight fit when it came to my shoulders, and I started to draw back. I instantly felt the muzzle of Bob's gun prodding me. I set my teeth together and squirmed my way into the horrible black tunnel.

It was a full hour before I dragged myself out of the top of the chimney and stood on the frosty roof in my stocking-feet. I was as black as a cinder, my nostrils were clogged with soot, and I was nearly tired to death. When I had pulled myself together, after a fashion, I slid down to a convenient trellis, thence made my way to the ground, and limped home.

Luckily I met no policeman. If I had, the chances were about even that I should have frightened him to death, or that he would have taken me in charge for an escaped gorilla. This experience weighed upon my mind so heavily that from that night I renounced burglary, and have been a reformed man.

PROVISIONED BY A JOKE.

The following amusing story belongs to the early days of a Far West township, Eureka in the State of Nevada, to the time when coin was scarce and credit difficult to obtain, and it used to worry some of the pioneers to know how to keep a full larder:—

"There were four jolly good fellows living up in New York Canon, the owners of several fine locations, but bankrupt in purse, and with their credit at the stores overdone. Their laziness was proverbial; they lived by their wits, and grew lean on their capital.

"While at breakfast, discussing the last remnants of provisions in the cabin, and already hungry in anticipation of the coming famine, it was suggested that a beef stew would be a capital thing for dinner, provided the ingredients could be obtained. There was good water and excellent salt on hand; but the butcher was obdurate, and the grocery-keeper hard of heart, and it needed considerable ingenuity to complete the list necessary to the concoction of the savoury dish.

"However, after much consultation a plan was finally agreed upon that promised success, and the quartette started for town to put the scheme into execution, one of the party providing himself with a couple of stout pins bent in the form of a hook—a necessary outfit if the plan worked.

"On arriving in town, two of the party lounged around the door of a grocery, where potatoes, onions, and other vegetables were temptingly exposed for sale, while the party with the pins and his companion proceeded to the butcher's shop. One halted on the threshold and gazed up and down the street, while the other engaged the butcher in an animated conversation, in the course of which he pointed to our friend and hinted that it would be a most excellent joke to fasten a piece of meat to the idler's coat-tail.

"The butcher caught at the idea, and handed over a huge round steak, which, with the aid of the pins, was fastened to the apparently unconscious victim's coat-tail.

"As soon as it was secured in the desired position he moved slowly down the street, leaving the butcher convulsed with laughter at the success of the joke.

"The attention of the bystanders was attracted to the strange appendage. Some shouted, others laughed, and the victim, feigning timidity, increased his pace to a run, followed by the mob.

"As he passed the grocery, the confederates stationed at that point put in execution their part of the scheme by liberally pelting him with potatoes and onions, an example folowed by the bystanders. He did not stop —that was not in the play—but he was soon out of view up the Canon, going at a gait that would have astonished a racehorse.

"The excitement over, the three partners sauntered up the street, stopping by the way to fill their capacious pockets with the vegetables so freely used as missiles, and then joined their companions at the cabin, to laugh together over the complete success of their stratagem. The quartette partook of a savoury beef stew at dinner, much to their gratification and to the disgust of the butcher when the joke was explained to him."

At the Wrong Time.

There is a story of an English curate who, having been instituted in his new office, went about the parish to make acquaintance with his congregation. One day he called on an honest farmer, who asked him how he liked Devonshire. "Oh, I like it exceedingly," said the curate; "but I find it rather muddy. I notice, however," he continued, pointing to the farmer's boot, which had a prodigiously thick sole, "that you take a very sensible precaution to keep out of the wet." "Well, you see, Mr. S——" said the farmer, "I have a club foot." The curate, who was the shyest and most sensitive of men, fled from the house, so much was he grieved over the unintentional cruelty of his speech. James Payn says he always considered this story very humorous, and once told it in his "best manner" at a large dinner party in a house where he had never dined before. During the narration he received a violent kick under the table from his next neighbour; but, supposing it to be accidental, went on talking. The tale was received in total silence, and it was some time before general conversation was resumed. "That was a very amusing story," whispered his neighbour. Mr. Payn was a little indignant at the want of appreciation shown by the others, and rejoined quickly: "But exceedingly stupid people to tell it to!" "No, my dear fellow, it isn't that. Our host has a club-foot."

The Franchise in Holland.

Holland disfranchises a citizen if he is absent from the country for ten years and during that time does not formally notify the proper authority that he wishes to continue to be regarded as a citizen. Great Britain does not so easily give up her claim to the loyalty of her subjects. A man may count upon her protection on the ground that his grandfather was by birth and allegiance an Englishman, even though he and his father were both born and have always lived on foreign soil but without being naturalised.

From One Point of View.

"Trusts put up prices, don't they?" asked the boy.

"Some people say they do," answered his father cautiously.

"When prices go up, we have to economize, don't we?" persisted the boy.

"We surely do," answered the man who pays the bills.

"Well," said the boy, with a sigh, "I wish you'd tell mamma that there's a soap trust now."

A Day's Preparation.

It was the day after they found poor Emma Bailey and her boy, while they still laid by the walls, that old Master Berringe died; an', though nobody knows how it went agin me, I felt it my bounden duty to fill Emma's place; as p'raps it was through my neglect she couldn't do it herself. Not that I should keep on doing it, for I don't think a woman with childring ought to see those sort of sights; an' there's sure to be some one ready to undertake it, for she used to get five an' ten shillings for a laying-out, though I didn't mean to take anything! an' what the parish paid should go for flowers to lay on the coffin.

True it is that in the midst of life we are in death, though you couldn't say Master Berringe had been took young, being in his seventy-eight—but it was very unexpected, he havin' only left the House the day before for a summer's outing. Ah! pore 'Manuel little thought he'd go, an' he did all flesh an' blood could to keep from it. A hard-workin', steady man all his life; puttin' in the club from the first beginning and never taking none out; for he hadn't a day's sickness till in his seventy-six, feeling work heavy, he thought he'd begin to hev' his old-age pension, which was eight shillings for the first six month an' then six a week. It had used to be ten shilling at first, an' afterwards eight, when the club was 'stablished; for it were rich then, bein' all young men puttin' in an' gettin' good wages. An' there was so much 'cumulation they feared Gover'ment might interfere; so's they didn't want any poking into their business, they raised the sick 'lowance and made everybody hev two pints instead of one at the yearly supper. An' with wages comin' down agen, this soon reduced the surplus, an' there was no more fear of Gover'ment.

Pore 'Manuel Berringe hadn't been takin' out but a year an' a half 'fore—what with so few contribiting, thro' bein' out of work, an' so many on the box—the club burst. Well, then he went an' broke his leg, an' had a long illness that took most his savings; so the relieving officer said he'd be much more comfortabler in the Union; an' as there was no one to 'tend to him an he'd want a deal of waitin' on till he could walk about, there he had to go. Pore fella! It did seem gallus hard that after working an' savin' all his life he should ha' to go to the big House at last. I'd recollect as I'd been wonderful worrited becos my husban' couldn't subscribe to the club; but it only proved how true it is as the Bible ses, "Take it easy; for you know not what a day may bring forth!" As it turned out, it 'ud never bin a bit o' good to us; for though my man can't keep on reg'lar work, he'd never ha' got sick pay, for, when you're on the box they won't even let you take up a spade! An' I know no earthful thing could ha' kep' him from fiddlin' in his garden.

I'd always known Master Berringe; for he an' his brother once harvested with father. Father was main glad to get two such good men, which only happened through Mr. Walton—the farmer they worked for—dyin' an' havin' all his cropping sold, just when all the others had engaged their men ready.

I've often heard father tell the tale, how the two brothers, Jeremiah an' Emanuel, come to him. I think they was twins—anyway they was near the same age, and so wonderful fond of each other that they always lived together, an' had never married, though they were gettin' on in life, bein' near forty. My mother's gal—for she had a big dairy, mor'n she could manage herself, though in two years all the cows fell with the foot-an'-mouth—Susan Williams, used to take the beer into the field; an' both of 'em fell deep in love with her. It did seem remarkable cur'ous that after keepin' single all that time on each other's account they should both go an' want the same gal! But so it was. An' all the time they was workin' they wos lookin' out for her; an' the minit she come, down their scythes would go, or their forks as the case might be, though there was nothing to complain of in their work.

They never quarrelled, nor said nothing about it; but it was very plain they were both desperit set on her, though which she'd hev was hard to tell. For my father said she was a sweet-natured, pretty little thing, who'd be nice an' kind to everybody.

Well, it went on to the end of harvest, every day they gettin' more silent to each other, 'till when they was paid up 'Miah went to 'Manuel an' said:

"Look here, brother. We know what we want, but she can't hev both on us. So let's give the gal her chice, an' abide by it. There's my hand as I'll never throw it up to you, whichever way it turns, an' I know you'll do the same by me. Now, this is what I say. Let's draw lots, an' the one as gets it asks her first; an' if she ses no the other takes his chance; an' should she say yes—well, then we shall know which she does want. Do you agree?"

So they cast lots, an' it fell to 'Miah; an' he went up at once to ask her, waitin' until she'd done serving the men.

Well, she cried, an' told him she liked him very much, an' was so sorry. But she said "No." So he went his way, an' 'Manuel tried his chance, an' him she married.

'Miah took it very quiet. He behaved wonderful well to his brother, giving up their cottage an' makin' him keep all the furniture, an' took a room for himself in the town. He was allus friendly, but he couldn't get over wanting Susan. I suppose it tried him too much to see her, for his visits got grad'ally fewer, an' then ceased altogether. At first the brothers used to talk when they met, then they only nodded, and at last they got to nothing at all, but all without any quarrel or hard words.

Susan only had one boy, an' she didn't live so very long. An' the son not marrying he kept livin' with his father, an' they managed the house between 'em. 'Manuel was handy about everything, an' always in good work, but Jim weren't up to much, an' often sick, when his father 'ud nurse him; sitting up an' doing for him like a woman.

As I sed, he kept in full work till he were 76, able to do everything from hoeing to thatching. But when his affliction fell on him it were no use thinking of leavin' him to Jim, so he had to go to the Union.

He was uncommon down at first, an' some of us was orfen going to cheer him up, or take him a little present. One day when I went with two oranges, they was gettin' the next bed ready, for somebody from Wellingway they told him, though I couldn't call to mind anybody as was ill. But while I was settin' there they brought him up on a stretcher, an' who should it be but his brother Jeremiah!

"Why, 'Miah, my boy," he cried, quite joyful-like, "I am glad to see you. How are you?"

"Oh, there ain't much the matter, brother. An' when they told me I'd got to come here to be nussed I said, 'Put me nex' 'Manuel Berringe; that'll do me more good than all your physic.' Lor', don't it seem like ole times!"

"That it do! An' they're uncommon good to us here—bring your meals reg'lar, an' clean. An' if you like to smoke why there's your 'bacca, or your snuff. But how long 'ev yer been like that, 'Miah?"

An' as I see they was so took up wi' each other, I just slipped quiet away.

They did seem to enjoy bein' together agen very much; an' I dessey as they'd neither had much comfort in their homes of late they found the house better than they'd expected; an' 'Manuel got over his lameness wonderful well. But 'Miah didn't seem to lose his dropsy. Sometimes he was a little easier after they'd tapped him, though it soon got as bad again. However, he didn't suffer much, an' never seemed tired of talking with his brother about old days.

They'd always bin quiet-livin' chaps, an' seemed as attached to each other as ever; an' as they didn't want for anything one could feel pretty satisfied about them, an' though the doctor said there was no hope of 'Miah gettin' better he'd likely last for years. But one night, quite unexpected, he had a turn for the worse, an' died sudden.

Poor 'Manuel was terribal cut-up, he was just as if he couldn't get over it, an' that restless. They said when the weather got warmer he should go out an' look for work.

It was the 1st of May they let him leave. Nobody knew as he was coming that day, or things might ha' bin different. So when he got to his home there warn't any one to meet him, for his son had gone lookin' for work to Downwell. When he opened the door he thought he'd got into the wrong place, an', dazed-like, he put his head out agen to see. But there were the suckling over the door as usual, only a little untidy, an' the row of red tulips. But, inside, all the nice furniture as 'Miah, an' he, an' Susan had gathered together was gone! Nothing left but a broken cheer, an old pot or two, an' a mattress on the floor, with a bit of carpet over it.

The nex' door neighbour, Mrs. Hawkins, seeing as the place was open, come to ask what was the matter, for she knew Jim "d gone. She found the pore ole man settin' on the cheer like one in a dream.

"Why, Master Berringe! I didn't know you was coming home," she sed. "Now, come in an' hev a cup o' tea wi' me. My kettle 's just on the boil!"

But he made as though he didn't hear her.

"Where are they all gone?" he asked, pointin' round.

"Oh!" she answers, soothin', "your son was ill an' out of work, so he had to sell somethin'."

But, as she ses, if she'd known how he'd ransacked the house—she ain't got very good sight—she'd ha' had her tongue cut out rather than ha' told him.

Then he tottered up an' went to find a little ole 'bacca box, where he used to keep his money, hid in the roof. (For, after his illness, he'd just ten pound left of his savings, that the minister thought he'd better leave at home rather than take to the House.) But Jim had took that, too! He just felt it was empty, an' put it back, sayin', "All gone!" An' he'd ha' fell down only she came an' helped him back to his seat.

He sat there, an' she didn't know what to do, for she daresent leave him; he looked that dying bad! He never answered a word when she asked him to come with her an' hev somethin'; but once or twice he said, so low, she could scarce hear:

"For our son to do it! Our Jim, as we loved so! How shall I tell her? How shall I tell her?"

A'ter she'd waited some time Mis' Hull went past; so he called her in an' went to fetch some blankets an' things off her own bed, and find a child to go for the doctor.

He let 'em undress him an' put him to bed, not seeming to know what they was doin', even when she fed him with some milk out of a spoon. An' when the doctor come he said he was took for death. Co—llapse, he called it.

Mrs. Hawkins sat by his side all night, but there was nothing to do He lay there just as they placed him, his eyes staring straight up, like he was trying to find out somethin'. Now an' then she heard him mutter, "My poor Susy! How can I tell her?"

Just at the break of day there was a change. His face got quite bright. He lifted himself up an' cried out, as if he was answerin' some one, "Yes, Susy, we will pray for him," an' fell back dead.—"Westminster Budget."

THE GARDENING HABIT.

In the spring the rural fancy
  Lightly turns to gardening,
And the tyro at the business
  Thinks that it is just the thing.
Spade and hoe and rake he's buying,
  For such things he mustn't lack;
Then the yard of small dimensions
  He is ripping up the back.

Old tin cans and glass and brickbats,
  Cobblestones and ancient shoes
He unearths while he is spading
  Plot of ground he means to use.
Every morn and eve he's toiling
  Till at last the digging's done,
And in seeds he's then investing
  For the garden just begun.

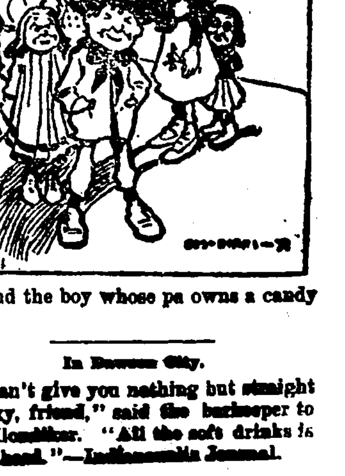
There's a little bed for lettuce,
  In another peas he'll chuck;
There are beds for beans and onions,
  Beets and other garden truck.
Then, when all the seeds are planted,
  He stands back and points with pride
To the garden that all summer
  Will for table well provide.

But the trouble's just commencing
  For this tiller of the soil,
Who so proudly calculated
  On the products of his toil,
For the neighbor's hungry chickens
  Play the dickens with the seeds,
And the beds so nicely plotted
  Soon display a crop of weeds.

There's another week of toiling
  In attempts to make it pay;
Then the man who dug the garden
  Gives the hens and weeds full sway,
And when friends are asking questions
  And expressing their surprise,
He declares he did the digging
  Just to get some exercise.

—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Puzzle.



Find the boy whose pa owns a candy store.

In Dawson City.

"Can't give you nothing but straight whisky, friend," said the barkeeper to the Klondiker. "All the soft drinks is froze hard."—Indianapolis Journal.

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'Twixt Love and Gold.

PART 18.

A HIGHLY SENSATIONAL ROMANCE OF LOVE AND ADVENTURE.

By J. Hanmer Quail,

Author of "The Cup Winners," "His Madeline," "Fenton Friars," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XVIII Continued.

"No, I can't say that I have," was the answer.

"Does she come into the town?" asked Charlie Drayton.

"I never heard of her coming. I should have heard of it if she had come," was the reply.

They walked to the end of the trees. At this point they were not more than fifty yards from the back of the house.

They stood for a minute viewing the place. There were four wide windows in the upper storey above the balcony of the verandah.

"There's a woman at that window see!" exclaimed the guide, pointing towards the house.

A girlish form had come into view at one of the windows. The form stood with hands down, and with head slightly inclinded, as if dejected, watching Mariana like, weary and hoping against hope.

"I believe it's her," said the storekeeper.

Malcolm could hardly contain himself. He saw at first sight that it was she, the girl who had saved his life and whom they had come so far to find.

"It is Wylva," he whispered to Charlie.

Involuntarily, Malcolm raised his hand and waved it. For a moment the figure remained motionless. Then a hand was raised and fluttered in response. She had seen the signal. Had she, could she, have recognised him. How Malcolm wondered this! What would he not have given to know that she had.

They had discovered her. Now they had to decide on a plan of action.

Walking slowly back towards the town, they reached a main road and here their guide left them.

"We're in luck, old man. How are we to go on?" asked Charlie, as soon as they were alone.

"Let us try to learn something more about her. I have a good mind to wait until it is dark and then go round and climb up and get into that room and if she is in bring her away."

"But what if she is properly married?"

Malcolm frowned.

"I don't believe she is. She is a prisoner as she was before. Let us go into the town and find out."

Visiting two of the hotels and some of the more likely stores they conversed with people they met about the Bransteins, and especially about Karl Branstein and his reputed English wife. Everybody spoke of her as Mrs. Branstein with the utmost assurance, but there was one remarkable thing. No one remembered seeing her since the day on which Mr. Branstein returned to Kimberley. They had seen her on that day but no one remembered seeing her since.

"I will tell you what my opinion is, old man," said Charlie, as they came out of a store where they had been hearing the same old narrative—that Mr. Branstein had brought home a wonderfully pretty English girl as his wife, but that since the day he came back no one had seen her.

"What?" asked Malcolm eagerly.

"I do not believe that she is married. I believe that they have just given it out that she is as part of the game, and that he is keeping her close until——"

Charlie shook his head significantly.

"That is just my own belief. I will swear she has never married him of her own free will," said Malcolm decisively.

"What shall we do?"

"Go and arrange for rooms at the hotel, and then have supper. Then turn out at midnight and go to the house. I'll try and get in that second room."

"Why you'll scare the life out of her, or be shot or nabbed as a burglar."

"I am here to see the job through and I am open to take all risks," said Malcolm defiantly.

"Good. So am I. Let us go and have supper."

They walked round to one of the hotels they had noticed on their first walk through the town and ordered supper. In a quarter of an hour they were vigorously at work on a repast of Kimberley fowl and mutton and maturing their plans for carrying off Wylva Merriman from Karl Branstein's house."

CHAPTER XIX.

It was the delicacy of the task which they had undertaken rather than the risks and difficulties attending it which made Malcolm and Charlie Drayton pause as they sat smoking their cigars over a glass of Cape wine after they had finished supper. They had decided that shortly before midnight they would make their way to Karl Branstein's house from the most secluded point, and that then, Malcolm should climb up to the balcony of the verandah and try to enter the room by the window of the room at which they had seen the form of the girl when they reconnoitred the place by daylight. But here the delicate part of the task would begin. Something told them that they would find Wylva Merriman in that room and alone. If they found the one they were in search of and succeeded in removing her from the house without being observed all would be well. It would be thought that she had escaped from the house of her own free act and will. But if they were discovered in the attempt there would be no telling what might happen. Still they had come from England to help Wylva, and they saw at the outset that they would have to take the risks of the enterprise and this was one of them

They stood at the end of the orange grove and looked intently across the grassy flat which lay between the grove and the back of the house. It was a quarter past twelve o'clock. The night was clear, and the stars in the cold, silent blue above, twinkled cheerfully. Now and then a light crackling sound came from among the trees as if some living creature were stealthily moving in the grass and brush. From overhead there came the light rustle of branches, as if the birds had been disturbed and had hopped from branch to branch.

"There is no sign of anyone stirring," whispered Charlie Drayton as with straining eyes, he scanned the outlines of the house.

"I don't see a thing moving," replied Malcolm. "Everything is as still as death over there."

"Everything. There must be dogs somewhere."

"There is no sound of them. Are you ready!"

"Aye, Here goes. Best lie low." Malcolm stooped low and stepped out lightly into the open. Charlie followed him, also stooping low the better to elude the notice by any prying eyes that might chance to be directed that way.

In a moment they had crossed the flat, and stood together by one corner of the house.

"The job now is to get up there," whispered Malcolm as he looked up at the dark outline of the balcony.

"Try by one of the windows at the back."

Malcolm stepped softly round the corner of the house. The verandah ran in front of the upper storey. There were four low windows corresponding with the upper windows which opened to the verandah.

"I can work that. Give me a leg up and I'll be up in a jiff," said Malcolm as he fixed his hands on the sill of the first window.

Charlie seized Malcolm's right leg.

"Up you go. I will wait for you at the corner. Pass her down gently if you get her," Charlie said in an undertone, as he gave a powerful lift and raised Malcolm some three feet higher in the world.

"Steady! I can do it."

Malcolm fixed his feet firmly on the window sill and reached upwards. He could just grasp the edge of the balcony.

"Charlie," he said, softly.

"Hallo!"

"Put your hand under my foot, and give me a big lift when I say 'now.'"

"Right you are. Say when."

"Now—up."

Charlie gave a powerful thrust and Malcolm sprang upwards. Their united efforts were successful. Malcolm rose breast-high against the edge of the balcony. In a moment he was on it, resting on his knees, facing the window.

Softly and without a sound he crept towards the window, still on his knees. In less than a minute he had reached it.

Rising to his feet, and passing his right hand lightly over the frame of the window he was overjoyed to find that it yielded to his pressure. The day had been hot, and the window had been left slightly open but the breeze had closed it, the two upright sashes being together. Very softly Malcolm pushed one of them open and stepped into the room.

It was quite dark, so dark that he could not discern the outline of anything, but against this he had provided. Taking from his breast pocket a small folding lamp, he arranged the lamp, and then holding it under his coat gently struck a venta and lit the small wax candle in the lamp.

Raising the edge of his coat enough to allow the light of the lamp to stream into the room, he turned noiselessly round observing every object on which the light fell.

There was a bed in one corner of the room, and a girlish head rested on the pillow. The face was towards Malcolm. The eyes were closed. The girl was asleep, but there was a strain of care on her face, as if she had fallen asleep with thoughts which were not of the happiest kind in her mind.

Malcolm raised the lamp and allowed the light to fall for an instant on her face. He would never forget that face in his life. It was the face of the girl who in one dread and never-to-be-forgotten hour when life seemed gone, cheered him with the words, "I am coming. You are safe!" The words would ring in his ears while life lasted. It was she who had used them; she, Wylva Merriman, the girl whose head rested on the pillow before him.

Her hair lay in a rich but loose mass over the pillow. Her eyes were closed. Her finely-moulded cheek and lips lay there in clear outline. There was the cast of care about her brow, but he thought her incomparably pretty. There, in the stillness of that African night he realized for the first time how completely she had engrossed his whole life and being.

He raised the lamp a second time. The strained look had gone from her forehead, and a gentle smile now played about her lips. She seemed to be dreaming—happy dreams. She had looked beautiful in Malcolm's eyes as she lay there with the strain of care on her features. Now she seemed transcendently beautiful as her face rested there, soft and peaceful and brightened by a smile.

Malcolm almost let the lamp fall. He felt impelled to take her face in his hands and bathe it with kisses.

Drawing a deep breath, he stood for a minute thinking. How could he awaken her? How could he express to her what he wished to, and get her to rise without sound or excitement so as not to arouse the household.

Stepping closer to the bedside, he laid his right hand on her smooth forehead. The smile faded and the hard look came again. Then her eyes opened.

"Wylva, Wylva! Hush, dear! It is I, Malcolm Cameron. I have come to help you. Do you understand?"

Her eyes opened more widely in strange astonishment. She seemed to recognise his voice, though he spoke in faint whispers.

"Mr.—Cameron," she said, in amazement.

"Yes. We have come to help you; to take you away. You want to leave this house, do you not? Speak very low or we shall be discovered."

"Oh, so much. I want to get back to England, but they keep me imprisoned here. Can you take me away?" she said in anxious tones.

"Wylva," he said, bringing his face very close to hers.

"Yes, Mr. Cameron," she whispered.

"Are you married to Mr. Branstein?"

"Married! How cruel! No, and never shall be. They have done all they could to force me into marriage but I have resisted and refused."

"Dear, dear girl!" he exclaimed, as he kissed her fondly.

"Listen darling. My friend Charlie Drayton is with me waiting to help you. Get up—not a sound. Dress quickly for a journey. I will wait on the balcony. Be very quick dear. There is no time to lose. I will come back in five minutes."

He kissed her again, and then setting his lamp in a corner of the room, stepped softly to the window, and disappeared.

Scarcely able to realise that what she had heard and seen was more than a dream, Wylva rose from the bed and tried to collect her thoughts There was the tiny lamp burning in the corner. That was reality. And the window was partly open. The cool morning air came in through it This again was reality. It was not a dream. He had come to help her, and take her away, as he said.

Hastily, and with trembling hands she dressed. She was putting her jacket on when a light tap sounded on the window, and one of the sashes was pushed open.

"Are you ready, dear," came in a whisper. Malcolm was at the window.

"Blow the light out, and bring it," he said, seeing she was ready to start.

Collecting a few letters and one or two small articles which she prized, Wylva quickly slipped them into a satchel, and then reaching the lamp blew the light out.

"I am coming," she said softly as she drew back the other sash of the window.

"This way: gently!" Malcolm said, as he assisted her through the window on to the balcony.

"I shall have to lower you to Charlie; don't be afraid," he said as he led her to the edge of the verandah.

"Charlie!" he called out in a low tone.

"Right! Come ahead!" rose the whispered response.

Malcolm assisted Wylva to the edge of the verandah; then grasping both her hands, he lowered her gradually until she was within Charlie's reach.

In two minutes more Wylva stood free, under the dark blue canopy of heaven, her cheeks fanned by the cool morning air.

"Come on, old man," rose the summons from Charlie Drayton.

In an instant Malcolm was down by the side of Wylva and Charlie.

"Now for the station; straight as we can go," said Malcolm taking Wylva's hand, as he set off across the flat behind the house.

They had reached the edge of the orange grove when a loud whistle sounded from the end of the house. Charlie looked round. Against the white wall of the house he could discern a black form moving.

"We're followed. You go on. I'll settle this fellow when he comes within range. Make for the station" said Charlie, as he slowed his pace.

Assisting Wylva to make her way between the short stunted bushes and through the long rough grass, Malcolm pushed on in the direction of the station. They had decided that if they found Wylva and released her they would leave Kimberley by the first train, simply to gain time and to escape the inconvenience of any legal difficulty with Mr. Branstein or anyone acting in his interests, and go on as far as Beaufort West, and then, if desirable remain there for a day or two, to make any further arrangements which might be for Wylva's convenience.

Charlie was now some yards behind Malcolm and Wylva, covering their retreat. A sharp, angry shout close behind him caused him to turn The form of a man with a raised weapon, preparing to strike, was within a couple of yards of him.

Charlie darted aside to avoid the blow which his pursuer aimed at him. The next instant the man was felled by a powerful blow from Charlie's clenched fist, and Charlie dashed on after Malcolm and Wylva. They had reached the road when his cheery voice once more greeted their ears.

"We are all right. I have settled that fellow. They won't trouble us now till we have gained the road," he said, as he came to Wylva's side.

(To be Continued.)

LITTLE TOMMY AND HIS FATHER.

They were at dinner. Little Tommy who was of an inquiring turn of mind, had been gazing at his father's somewhat rosy countenance for some time. At last he said:—

"Papa, what makes your nose and face so dre'f'ly red."

"The East wind, of course," answered papa, rather hastily. "Do not talk so much, Thomas, and pass me the beer."

It was then that a voice came from the other end of the table in dulcet tones, saying: "Tommy dear pass your papa 'the east wind' and be careful not to spill it on the clean cloth."

A SURPRISE FOR THE DOG.

A number of gentlemen were assembled in the smoking-room of a large hotel in the north, when a local tradesman followed by a ferocious-looking bull-terrier, entered the room.

"That dog is the worst-tempered brute in the district," volunteered one of the company to a stranger in the corner seat. "He ought to have been shot years ago."

"Indeed!" exclaimed the stranger with a quiet smile. "I never was afraid of a dog in my life. You've only to show the brute something he doesn't understand, and he will never face you again."

"That may do with some dogs," put in the tradesman at this juncture, "but it would not be good enough for Nipper there."

"Will you give me permission to stroke him?" asked the stranger.

"Nipper wouldn't allow you to take that liberty with him," returned the dog's owner.

"I'm not asking Nipper's permission," retorted the stranger. "I'm asking yours."

"Oh, very well; if you will run into danger. Remember, however, you stand all risks. Nipper! Come here!"

The brute came to his master's side, and without a moment's hesitation the stranger put out a gloved hand and stroked the dog down the back.

At the second attempt, however, Nipper whipped round, and brought his teeth together with a snap on the stranger's hand. Then, with a look of unmistakable fear, the dog dropped his tail between his legs and dived under the seat.

"You see," said the stranger, quietly, as he rolled up his sleeve and displayed an artificial arm, "Nipper didn't reckon upon there being a metal hand under such a soft glove. He was puzzled and he would never tackle me again."

AN ENGINEERING FEAT.

A remarkable piece of engineering was completed recently in Cranston, Rhode Island. The chimney of the Narragansett Brewery, 192ft. in height, owing to undermining by water was so badly out of plumb (leaning near 4ft. towards the east) that its falling seemed assured. The fate of a £1,600 chimney seemed to be immenent and certain. J. H. Gerard, civil engineer, of Cranston, R.I., undertook to straighten this rival of the leaning tower of Pisa. The plan devised by Mr. Gerard was a simple one. One course of bricks three-quarters of the way through the chimney was removed from the west side, and its place was taken by wedges of oak. An 8ft. bed of concrete was then laid against the foundation on the east side. Two holes were cut in the east side of the chimney, and in these were inserted 22in. steel beams 25ft. in length. These were used as levers to tip the 192ft. chimney towards the west. The wooden wedges were gradually burned out, by a gas flame driven into the oak by compressed air. The chimney as the wood was burned away, gradually approached the perpendicular line, the movement averaging about 6in. a day. When the chimney was straight, the space occupied by the brick was filled and the steel beams were buried in concrete after the removal of the jack screws. This has obviated the necessity of moving the boiler-house to another location.

AN ADVENTURE IN A BATH-CHAIR.

John's wife was a confirmed invalid, and could not walk, so John, who proved himself a thoughtful and loving husband, used to take her out every day in a bath-chair. In one of his walks he had to go through a field in which was a young bull. John had not noticed the bull when he first entered, but no sooner did the bull see him than he tossed up his head and came charging straight for him. All John's courage forsook him. He fled leaving his bath-chair and his wife behind him. As he went he could hear a great puffing and blowing not far behind him. He thought he would never reach the gate in time to escape. Ah! there it was. If he could only get over it He glanced over his shoulder to see how far the bull was behind. And then he stopped short in utter consternation to find that he had been running away from his wife all the time, and that the bull, a good distance off, was trying to see what the bath-chair was made of.

"Why," he cried in the greatest surprise, "I thought you couldn't walk!"

"Ah John," she said sadly, "You never know what you can do till you try."

IT BROUGHT BACK MEMORIES.

The Indian bullock-gharry is a rudely-constructed vehicle, the wheels a rough-cut section of tree trunk, against which the axle, which is rarely greased, chafes with a constant shrieking, wailing, and groaning sound.

My friend Dobbs lately made the acquaintance of a retired Indian officer and his family, and being asked to dinner, in due time appeared in the drawing-room, leaving the colonel dozing over his wine.

Dobbs was politely asked to sing, and as he thinks he really can, he flung up his head and gave tongue.

In rushed the colonel, purple with excitement.

"Hark to the gharry, girls! Hark to the gharry!" he shouted, rushing to the window and peering up the street. "Whatever can an Indian gharry be doing in England"

Poor Dobbs stopped "singing" in confusion, and the colonel nearly had a fit of apoplexy.

"What!" he gasped, turning from the window in amazement, "was it you?"

INDUSTRIAL RUSSIA.

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN THE MUSCOVITE EMPIRE.

The Russian Government is exceedingly anxious to avoid strikes among the working people and artisans.

Difficulties between Capital and Labour are much dreaded; that which begins as a strike might easily end as a revolution.

But industrialism is so rapidly increasing in the Muscovite Empire that its growth is inevitably bringing a series of Labour troubles.

And this in spite of the paternal legislation of the Government, which strictly regulates the employer and the employed with a view of avoiding all possible cause for dispute.

Even Tolstoy admitted that the Government has done all it can to improve the condition of the factory workers, adding, however, that it has done so at the expense of the country population. This would point to a deliberate attempt to draw people from the land to the towns; and Tolstoy's contention is that a peasant on the soil, however poor he may be, is better off than a poor town-worker or factory-hand.

This contention may be admitted, within limitations. In Russia the conditions are very peculiar. It is not half a century since the emancipation of the serfs took place, giving liberty to 50,000,000 persons and placing these for the most part in the possition of small landowners.

Failing to procure employment on the greatly diminished estates of the nobles, and their own allotments being quite inefficient to provide support for winter as well as summer, an immense body of working-folk are continually fluctuating between the country and the towns. In most cases the peasant loves his land too well to desert it entirely, but necessity drives him to the town during the half of every year; and the fact that he leaves some little property in the country when he goes to seek urbane employment, enables him to work for lower wages than others find it possible.

For this reason we find that

WAGES IN RUSSIA RULE LOW

without necessarily causing the misery that low wages must bring about in a land where the worker, apart from his labour, is generally a pauper. Parties of peasants seeking the towns, form themselves into a kind of Labour association, or guild, under an elected head-man who attends to all negotations between the party and its employers, A binding contract is drawn up, the party's passports are handed over to the keeping of the employer; and the workers can neither leave the service at will nor be dismissed until the period contracted for has elapsed.

Although wages are low, seldom exceeding £12 for the half year, the worker often manages to save about half of this to carry back with him when he returns to meet the summer in his village.

Hours of work for all toilers are strictly regulated, but the best regulations in Russia, as elsewhere, are not always enforced.

But the Russian peasant, if desirous of finding work, other than that of agriculture, is not always compelled to resort to the towns. There are many

CO-OPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITIES

in the villages, as well as manufacturing concerns run by private firms. The Russian is especially gregarious, and has a genius for co-operation.

A small capital suffices for a start, a rough workshop is erected, and the workers combine in trades which they could not possibly pursue singly. These trades are usually spinning or weaving, manufacture of articles in metal or wood, weapons, vehicles, fancy articles, tea urns, and notably the icons or sacred pictures which are found in the homes of every orthodox Christian, in Russia or elsewhere.

One advantage of the immense empire of Russia is the market that it finds among its own provinces. Asiatic Russia purchases freely the articles manufactured in European Russia. Russia depends very little upon imports. She not only can feed herself, but export enormous quantities of grain. It must be confessed that the thought of

THIS VAST CORN EXPORT

becomes somewhat incongruous when we read of peasant famines and starving millions; but there is the same incongruity between the famines and the wealth of our India. The Russian Government has acted wisely in fostering peasant industrial associations. She does not fear these peaceful patient peasants, with their simple co-operative combinings. It is the labour leagues of the town that she fears, and crushes relentlessly wherever they emerge into sight.

For this reason she persecutes the Jew, whose mental energy drives him to become socialistic more quickly than the stolid Russian.—"London Budget."

A GIANT SEA SHELL.

The shell valves of the Giant Clam often weigh more than five hundred pounds. The mollusc itself provides about twenty pounds of food material for the natives of the coasts of the Indian seas, where it is found, who eat it uncooked as we might oysters. The shell valves of these molluscs measure as much as four and a half feet in length, by two and a half feet in breadth, and one foot in depth. This giant species was formerly rare, but the demand for its great valves for use in grotto work and for fountain bowls, or even for benitiers for containing holy water in a church, for which purpose they have been used, has shown that a fair number can be obtained when required. The byssus, which moor these molluscs to the rocks are of such strength as to require severance with an axe.

AN INGENIOUS MACHINE.

ANOTHER REVOLUTION IN PRINTING.

The discovery a few years ago that aluminium was a good substitute for lithographic stone furnished a great impetus to the art of lithography.

The flexibility of the metal plate permitted it to be used on rotary presses, whereas the stone could only be used on the flat press. Not only pictures, but reading matter was impressed on the plates, so that books and newspapers were printed by the lithographic process.

Briefly described, the process consists of printing the matter with greasy ink on a prepared sheet. This is then pressed down on the aluminium plates, transferring the designs thereon.

A small machine something like a typewriter is provided to print the original sheet. The "lithotype," as it is called comprises two separate machines, one which perforates a strip of paper, and the other which prints the transfer sheet under the control of the perforated tape.

It would be impossible to describe the mechanism without indulging in technicalities unintelligible to the ordinary reader. Briefly put, however, it may be said that the first part of the machine is fitted with a keyboard of 100 keys, after the style of the typewriter, and by the aid of this the text is mechanically perforated on a tape, somewhat resembling that used in a telegraph instrument.

This perforated tape is then passed through the second machine which produces printed matter as the tape passes through. The transfer, or printing machine, it is claimed, can work at twice the speed at which the average operator manipulates the keyboard.

Thus, the transfer machine can handle the output of two perforator machines. Mistakes of the operator can be corrected by pasting strips of paper with the corrections thereon over the faulty matter on the transfer paper.

The general advantage offered by the lithotyping process may be briefly summed up as follows:

It does away with the use of type and the process of stereotyping. It makes use of light aluminium plates as against heavy stereotype metal on the presses. The life of the plate is unlimited.

In the "lithotype," founts may be changed simply by slipping on a new type wheel on the printer. A number of small rolls of tape will contain the perforations for a whole book and may be very conveniently stored or posted. The machine is very compact and takes up little room.

A YEAR'S BATTLESHIPS IN ENGLAND.

During the past year fourteen vessels including torpedo craft, were added to the British Navy, representing a tonnage of 149,340 and an indicated horse-power of 262,800. The list includes five battleships all of the Duncan class. These vessels are of 13,000 tons, and are the fastest in the British Navy, their speed being 19 knots. Seven new armoured cruisers have been commissioned, with the result that the cruiser squadron has been strengthened, and is now not only the most powerful, but the fastest fleet in the world, all of the ships having a full-power of 23 knots.

The ships commissioned this year include the Drake and Levianthan, of 14,100 tons, with engines of 30,000 indicated horse-power. The five other cruisers commissioned are the Kent, Bedford, Monmouth Donegal and Berwick, all, with the first exception, built on the Clyde. These vessels are of 9,800 tons and 22,000 indicated horse-power. The remaining two ships commissioned during the year were the sloops Merlin and Odin. The armament of the ships may be regarded as indicating the power of attack, and thus it is interesting to note that this year's newly-commissioned ships had in all twenty 12in. guns, four 9.2in. weapons, 106 6in. quick-firers, and 239 smaller weapons.

SCIENCE AND POTATOES.

The farmers of Germany are noted for their adoption of scientific methods, particularly in the cultivation of potatoes, which is their grand specialty.

To avoid the effects of inbreeding, the scientific German farmer rarely plants seed potatoes from his own fields, He either gets new varieties or changes with his neighbors whose farms possess soil differing from that of his own.

An interesting fact is that potatoes grown on high hill slopes produced best when planted in valleys, and that potatoes from the heavy, wet land make the best seed for use in light, dry soils.

ALL INSANE.

The story is told of a jury in a county town, which met to inquire and make investigation into the cause of a suicide—a man who had lived but a short time in their midst, but who had acted strangely from the first.

After sitting through the evidence, these twelve good men and true, retired, and after cogitation, returned with the following verdict:

"The jury are all of one mind—temporarily insane."

IN GOOD FORM.

A city lad once went to dine with an aunt of his in the country, and as soon as he was seated manifested a disposition to waive ceremony.

"Johnnie," said his aunt, "we are in the habit of saying something before beginning to eat."

"All right, Auntie, say whatever you like; you can't spoil my appetite."

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Golf has been introduced into Constantinople.

In Chicago bread must be stamped with the weight and name of baker.

Mild beer has 1 to 1½ per cent. alcohol; bitter up to 10 per cent.

The Yukon in summer is navigable for a distance of 1,965 miles from the sea.

Twelve years ago there were 2,000 Japanese in the United States. To-day there are 24,300.

Babylon's population could never have exceeded 1,200,000. Probably the number of people in Rome was less than this figure.

In Java there is an orchid, the grammatophylium, all the flowers of which open at once, as if by a stroke of a fairy wand, and they also all wither together.

The most valuable crown in Europe is the Portuguese; but the Austrian, valued at £110,000 is the finest specimen of the goldsmith's art.

Up to twenty years ago it was usually estimated that our atmosphere was but forty miles deep. It is now put at from 187 to 216 miles. Its thickness is judged by the incandescence of meteors.

Some of the new buildings in French cities are fitted with doors made entirely of paper. It is finished to resemble any kind of wood, and there is no warping, shrinking, or cracking.

An electric railway is to connect Glasgow with Edinburgh, a distance of forty-two miles. There will be but a single rail, and the trip will be made, it is stated, in twenty-nine minutes.

Eagles have been noticed flying at a height of 6,000ft., and storks and buzzards at 2,000ft. A lark will rise to the same height, and so will crows. As a rule, however, birds do not fly at a greater height than 1,000ft.

Cork is said to be the most buoyant substance there is, but if sunk 200ft. deep in the ocean it will not rise again to the surface, owing to the great pressure of the water. At any less depth it will gradually work its way back to light.

Visitors to Paris cannot fail to notice that the street cleaners of that city form a little army. They number altogether 3,880. They are divided into brigades, under the command of forty-four superintendents and 159 foremen. Five hundred sweeping machines are used and these, with the water-carts, find employment for 1,600 horses.

In 1870, an ordinary explosive shell, when it burst, broke into from nineteen to thirty pieces. To-day it bursts into 240. Shrapnel fire in 1870 scattered only thirty-seven death-dealing missles. Now it scatters 340. A bomb weighing about 70lb. thirty years ago would have burst into forty-two fragments. To-day when it is charged with peroxilene, it breaks up into 1,200 pieces, each of which is hurled with much greater velocity than the larger lumps which were scattered by a gun-powder explosion.

In the island of Jamaica there grows a tree with the botanic name Daphne Lagetto, from the branches of which native workmen make peculiarly strong and excellent whips, which have the handle and lash all in one piece. The handle consists of a part of the stem retaining the bark and then split into strips, which are woven together in a flexible cord six or seven feet long. The proper taper is afforded by detaching more and more of the strips as the end of the lash is approached.

The octopus is very largely used as an article of food in Southern Italy. Its long tentacles are cut transversely, so that, when served at table they have the appearance of rings. The fish, when taken by day, are lured from the crevices of the rocks by a piece of red flannel at the end of a bamboo, which they attempt to grasp, and they are then speared with a trident. At night an iron cradle with a bright flame of resinous wood is fixed to the bows of a boat. This attracts the fish, and leads him to his doom.

The growth of the motor-car industry in England may be gauged from the fact that the number of cars exported during the eleven months ended November 1903, was 813, against 331 during the corresponding period of 1902, while the value of the vehicles was £282,807 for 1903, against £138,748 for 1902. The number or cars imported has also increased from 3,577 during the eleven months of 1902 to 5,892 in 1903, and the value of the imported cars has increased from £1,041,091 for 1902 to £1,905,856 for 1903, this increase being mainly due, it is said, to the inability of the English manufacturers to meet the great demand that has arisen.

Women in Korea differ remarkably from their sex in other countries in one particular—they are absolutely silent! The length of a woman's tongue is a frequent reproach elsewhere; but it cannot be brought against the Korean wife, who never speaks more than is strictly necessary. A bride dare not utter a word or make even a sign, however much her husband may tease or taunt her, for to break silence would mean total loss of caste. Among the higher classes it may be weeks or months before a husband hears his wife's voice for the first time, while the wife does not speak or even look at her father-in-law for years after her marriage.

1411.

Presentation to Mr. and Stevenson.

Owing to Constable Stev tranfer to Warrenheip, the resi Waterloo decided to recognise practical way their appreciation him and Mrs Stevenson. There very large attendance on Wed evening last, at the Mechanics tute, for that purpose. Mr Cowley occupied the chair, and a the visitors were the Rev. J. A. Rev. R. Yeo, Mr and Mrs M Mr and Mrs Carroll, and Apologies were announced on be Rev. Butler Johnstone, Rear-A Bridges, and Mr McLeod. T ceedings opened with games, in by Mr Davey. Mrs Barber sa "Hour of Peace" and another in excellent style, both being appreciated by the audience. Milligan contributed a song in a pleasing manner. Campbell M gave a capital rendering of three viz., "Forging the Anchor," "F ward Bound," and "My B Queen." Great surprise was ex at the rapid improvement made singing. Mrs Willis also favore company with a song. Piano were capitally rendered by Miss and Campbell Milligan. The man then made the presentation a very handsome silver tea and service, with hot water kettle, a doing so stated that Mr Stevenso been in the district for 12½ years during the time he had known h always found him very hospitable of an obliging disposition. He been associated with him on the mittee of the local Mechanics' tute for about 9 years, and found an active worker, doing his utm advance its interests. If there any cases of distress in the distric Stevenson was the first to take to alleviate the wants of the suff He hoped Mr and Mrs Stevenson be spared for many years, so that ever they looked upon the hand present it would remind them o pleasant time spent at Waterloo in the future when their children grown up they would be delighte know that their parents were so appreciated. Rear-Admiral B thought so much of Mr Stevenso he forwarded a cheque for £3 to the cost of the present. The Revs Barber and R. Yeo, and Messrs C Flynn, and others also spoke high Mr Stevenson. Constable Steve in responding, thanked the peopl their appreciation of Mrs Steve and himself, and said he foun difficult at the time to express his ings as he should like. He had a very happy time at Waterloo whatever he had done needed recognition. He would be delig to welcome at Warrenheip an from Waterloo, and on behalf o Stevenson and himself again tha the residents of Waterloo dis Very great praise is due to the l for the excellent supper volunt provided by them, and for manner in which they attende the wants of all present. Mr Edwards kindly acted as M.C. his usual ability. An opport was taken of welcoming Mr an Felsenthal as successors to Mr Mrs Stevenson. All present se to have spent a very enjoyable eve

Wedding.

The marriage of Miss Mabel Wight second youngest daughter of Mr Wightwick, of Ballarat East, wit Thos. W. C. Deeley, eldest son of Mr W. Deeley, of Prahran (late of Bea field), was celebrated at the Presbyt Church, Beaufort, on June 2nd, officiating clergyman being Rev. J Barber, B.A. The bride, who was away by her brother, Mr Norman W wick, was attired in a dark grey ho travelling dress, with trimmings of cloth and velvet to match, and black picture hat, with feather trimmings. wore a set of furs and carried a shower bouquet, with streamers, the of the bridegroom. She was attende two bridesmaids, namely, Miss Wightwick, sister of the bride (who a grey voile shirred dress, and white picture hat, with feather trimmings), Miss Daisy Nicholson, (niece of the b who wore a cream costume, and felt picture hat, with satin rosettes feather trimmings to match. They carried bouquets. Mr W. Wood Ballarat East, acted as best man. the ceremony the wedding party friends proceeded to the residence of bride's sister, where a tastefully prep tea was partaken of. After the toasts had been honored, Mr and Deeley left by the train for Melbou The bridegroom's presents to the br maids were—To Miss Ilma Wightwic gold pendant; to Miss Daisy Nicho a gold band initialed ring.

The following presents were receive Father of bridegroom, cheque; moth bridegroom, pair silver sugar tongs, p and gold bangle; parents of bride, cruet, butter dish, and sugar basin Norman Wightwick, silver teapot; Ilma Wightwick, toilet set; Mr W. W silver gravy tureen and stand; Miss Nicholson, oil painting; Rev. and Mrs Barber, bible; Mr S. Young, silver serv holder; Mr and Mrs G. Perry, silver rack; Misses J. and C. Greenwood, afternoon teaspoons; Mr and Mrs G. La drawingroom lamp; Mr and Mrs H. Wa cake dish; Mr V. Hardy, silver jam sp Mr and Mrs A. Wilkinson, cheese Miss Mary Hutton, jam dish; Miss D (Melbourne), beautiful lamp, jam dish, afternoon tea plates; Misses Lucy and G Kirkland (Melbourne), biscuit barrel Kirkland (Melbourne), preserves; Mis Mense (Melbourne), silver photo. frame set of tumblers; Mrs Cartwright (Melbou silver butter knife; Mrs Stevens (Melbou set of hand-painted fruit dishes.

The Fitzroy branch of the Pol Labor Council is requesting the Gov ment to bring in a bill providing members of the Assembly who ne their duty by absenting themselves sittings should forfeit a proportio amount of their pay, except when absence is caused by their being eng on Government duties.

'LINSEED COMPOUND,' The 'Stock Remedy' for Coughs and Colds. immediate relief.

Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson.

Owing to Constable Stevenson's tranfer to Warrenheip, the residents of Waterloo decided to recognise in a practical way their appreciation of both him and Mrs Stevenson. There was a very large attendance on Wednesday evening last, at the Mechanics' Institute, for that purpose. Mr W. J. Cowley occupied the chair, and amongst the visitors were the Rev. J. A. Barber, Rev. R. Yeo, Mr and Mrs Milligan, Mr and Mrs Carroll, and others. Apologies were announced on behalf of Rev. Butler Johnstone, Rear-Admiral Bridges, and Mr McLeod. The proceedings opened with games, introduced by Mr Davey. Mrs Barber sang the "Hour of Peace" and another item in excellent style, both being highly appreciated by the audience. Mrs Milligan contributed a song in a very pleasing manner. Campbell Milligan gave a capital rendering of three songs, viz., "Forging the Anchor," "Homeward Bound," and "My Beloved Queen." Great surprise was expressed at the rapid improvement made in his singing. Mrs Willis also favored the company with a song. Piano solos were capitally rendered by Miss Reece and Campbell Milligan. The chairman then made the presentation, viz., a very handsome silver tea and coffee service, with hot water kettle, and in doing so stated that Mr Stevenson had been in the district for 12½ years, and during the time he had known him he always found him very hospitable and of an obliging disposition. He had been associated with him on the committee of the local Mechanics' Institute for about 9 years, and found him an active worker, doing his utmost to advance its interests. If there were any cases of distress in the district, Mr Stevenson was the first to take steps to alleviate the wants of the sufferers. He hoped Mr and Mrs Stevenson would be spared for many years, so that whenever they looked upon the handsome present it would remind them of the pleasant time spent at Waterloo, and in the future when their children were grown up they would be delighted to know that their parents were so highly appreciated. Rear-Admiral Bridges thought so much of Mr Stevenson that he forwarded a cheque for £3 towards the cost of the present. The Revs. J. A. Barber and R. Yeo, and Messrs Carroll, Flynn, and others also spoke highly of Mr Stevenson. Constable Stevenson, in responding, thanked the people for their appreciation of Mrs Stevenson and himself, and said he found it difficult at the time to express his feelings as he should like. He had spent a very happy time at Waterloo, and whatever he had done needed no recognition. He would be delighted to welcome at Warrenheip anybody from Waterloo, and on behalf of Mrs Stevenson and himself again thanked the residents of Waterloo district. Very great praise is due to the ladies for the excellent supper voluntarily provided by them, and for the manner in which they attended to the wants of all present. Mr John Edwards kindly acted as M.C. with his usual ability. An opportunity was taken of welcoming Mr and Mrs Felsenthal as successors to Mr and Mrs Stevenson. All present seemed to have spent a very enjoyable evening.

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'LINSEED COMPOUND.' The 'Stockport Remedy' for Coughs and Colds. Gives immediate relief.

Football.

BEAUFORT v. BALLARAT SCHOOL OF MINES.

The above match was to have been played in the Beaufort Park on Wednesday afternoon, but owing to the inclement weather it had to be cancelled.

BEAUFORT S. S. v. WATERLOO S. S.

The Beaufort State school football team journeyed to Waterloo to play the return match with that school on Saturday last. It was a fine day, and Beaufort had a really good team. From the first Beaufort proved to be the stronger team, and kept the ball near their opponents' goal. Waterloo, however, towards the end of the first quarter, scored a behind. In the second quarter Beaufort scored 15 points to Waterloo's nil. In the last two quarters the game was also very one-sided, the match resulting in an easy win for Beaufort; the scores being—Beaufort, 2 goals 9 behinds (21 points); Waterloo, 1 behind (1 point). P. Baker, A. Davis, P. Whitfield, and W. Glenister played the best game for Beaufort, and J. Flynn, A. Kewley and J. Trainor for Waterloo. Mr F. Baker impartially acted as field umpire.

ELMHURST v. WATERLOO.

The Elmhurst correspondent to the "Ararat Advertiser" reports:—The Elmhurst footballers journeyed by drag to Waterloo to do battle with the footballers there. Fine weather prevailed for a change last Saturday, and the trip was a pleasant one, and the visitors were struck with the picturesque scenery on nearing Waterloo. On arrival there they met with a most cordial reception by the Waterloo team. Elmhurst were not represented by their full strength, playing several substitutes, whilst Waterloo were not only represented by their full strength, but played some of the best players from Beaufort, Stockyard Hill, and Middle Creek. The game was, however, very evenly contested, the result being—Waterloo, 5 goals 5 behinds (35 points); Elmhurst, 3 goals 8 behinds (26 points.) Much dissatisfaction was expressed, not only by the Elmhurst men but by spectators of the game, at the unfair decisions given by M. O'Brien, of Middle Creek, who acted as central umpire. This was very noticeable when the Waterloo sticks were in danger. This was the only thing that marred what was otherwise a pleasant day's outing for the Elmhurst lads. At the conclusion of the match the visitors were treated most hospitably by the Waterloo boys. The Elmhurst lads returned home after their 45-mile drive at a late hour thoroughly pleased with the day's outing. Those who showed good form for Elmhurst were—R. Orrock (who played a grand game all through), Turner, Williams, and Moore; for Waterloo—Sneddon, Tyrrell, Lynch, and the two Andersons. The Elmhurst club intend paying Ararat a visit shortly, I believe.

SKIPTON v. STREATHAM.

Streatham v. Skipton, played at Skipton on Saturday, resulted in a easy win for the local team by 9 goals to 2. At a meeting of the local club held subsequently, the resignation of Mr W. Stoddart as captain was accepted, and Mr A. McIntyre was elected to the position.

Mining News.

All Nations Consols, Beaufort.—D. F. Troy and party—Built cistern under pumps, made dam in plat, and deepened the shaft 4ft. Grant and party—Driving and crosscutting in south-west end, with poor results. Adamthwaite and party—Sunk main shaft to 35ft. Morris and party—Sunk shaft to 33ft.; now engaged puddling back water.

Barton Quartz Co., Beaufort.—Finished slabbing and centreing shaft. Opened east side for No. 2 level at 211ft. from surface, which is in 4ft.; delayed two days with a burst of water, which has eased off a good deal, but is still strong (600 gallons per hour).

Daughters of Freedom, Main Lead.—Yield for week, 3oz. 1dwt.

Sons of Freedom Central, Raglan.—Blocking and truck-roading in Nos. 1 and 5 rises, in ground of average quality. Yield for the week, 102oz. 10dwt.

Sons of Freedom Junction, Raglan.—Contractors making fair progress with housing; slightly delayed through wet weather.

Sam Slick Co.—Jaensch and party—Driving and crosscutting in south-east end, in poorer quality wash.

The following are the reported local yields for the week ending Saturday last:—Sons of Freedom Central, 102oz. 15dwt.; All Nations Consols—Troy and party's No. 1 tribute (including 20oz. from machine bottom), 25oz. 8dwt.; Grant and party's No. 2 tribute, 2oz. 16dwt. 12oz.; Sam Slick—Jaensch and party, No. 1 tribute, 11oz. 4dwt. 12gr.; Daughters of Freedom, 5oz. 10dwt.; Last Chance, 6oz. 11dwt. 12gr.; sundries, 10oz. 5dwt.

Clean gas ovens with warm, soapy water to which a little Scrubb's ammonia has been added.

A "Self-made Merchant" gives some pithy advice to his son on the handling of women. "I didn't get at the facts of the quarrel, but you're in the wrong. A fellow is always in the wrong when he quarrels with a woman, and even if he wasn't at the start, he's sure to be before he gets through. And a man who's decided to marry can't be too quick learning to apologise for things he didn't say, and to be forgiven for things he didn't do. When you differ with your wife, never try to reason out who's in the wrong, because you'll find that after you've proved it to her she'll still have a lot of talk left she hadn't used. Of course, it isn't natural and it isn't safe for married people, and especially young married people, not to quarrel a little, but you'll save a heap of trouble if you'll make it a rule never to refuse a request before breakfast and never to grant one after dinner. I don't know why it is, but most women get up in the morning as cheerful as a breakfast food ad., while a man will snort and paw for trouble the minute his hoofs touch the floor. Then, if you'll remember that the longer the last word is kept the bitterer it gets, and that your wife is bound to have it anyway, you'll cut the rest of your quarrels so short that she'll never find out just how much meanness there is in you. Be the silent partner at home, and the thinking one at the office. Do your loose talking in your sleep."

'LINSEED COMPOUND.' The 'Stockport Remedy' for Coughs and Colds. Gives immediate relief.

Useful Hints.

A bit of camphor put in the reservoir of a paraffin lamp will make it give a better light.

For a furniture polish, equal parts of boiled linseed oil, methylated spirit and vinegar is hard to beat.

Grease spots on hearthstones can be removed by covering with a thick layer of fuller's earth, which must be left on for several hours.

Old Brass.—To brighten much discolored old brass, scrub it with paraffin and powdered bath brick. Use a fairly stiff brush, and when the stain has all disappeared polish with a cloth and finely rubbed bath brick, and then give a final rub with a wash leather.

To Clean Linoleum.—Beeswax and turpentine polish for linoleum is hard to beat as far as its appearance is concerned, but it has one defect—it causes a slipperiness which may be very dangerous to children and old people. A polish which has no such objection is made of equal parts of linseed oil and vinegar. Apply a little to a flannel cloth, rub it well on the linoleum and polish with a clean, dry cloth.

The Wash House Boiler.—One often hears complaints that the wash house boiler rusts and ironmoulds the clothes. This may be easily prevented by rubbing the boiler, directly it is emptied and still warm, with any good household soap. Give it a good coating of soap, for the soap will not only prevent rust, but will help to make the suds when the boiler is filled for the next washing day.

To Strengthen a Kidderminster Carpet.—When a Kidderminster carpet begins to wear get a piece of material as nearly matching it in color as possible, and cut from it a piece quite a quarter of a yard larger all round than the hole in the carpet. Make some moderately thick flour paste, brush it over the new material, lay this at the back of the worn part of the carpet, and iron till paste is quite dry.

Glue That is Always Ready for Use.—Dissolve glue in whisky instead of in water and it will remain liquid. Put the glue and whisky together in a bottle, cork tightly, and leave for three or four days, when it will be fit for use. Glue thus prepared will keep for years, and will never need heating except in very cold weather, when the bottle containing it should be stood for a little while in warm water before it is used.

When boiling a cracked egg a teaspoonful of vinegar put into the water will prevent it boiling out, no matter how much it is cracked.

Potatoes steamed "in their jackets" are delicious. After cooking, dry thoroughly before serving.

Water cress should always be first washed in brine water to remove the insects, and afterwards well rinsed in clear water.

Tea made with boiling milk is very nourishing. The milk should be poured on leaves, left for three minutes, and then poured off.

When steaming a fowl, rub first with lemon juice. This whitens the flesh and improves the flavor. Wrap in butter paper before putting in the steamer.

Arbor Day was observed at the Waterloo State School yesterday. The teachers gave several lessons on trees and planting. Essays were read by the children and several songs rendered. A number of parents were present. Cr. M. Flynn, J.P., gave the children some advice in tree-planting and assisted also. Messrs Stevenson and Cochrane and the teachers provided lollies which were distributed amongst the children.

RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, LUMBAGO, and other Acid Diseases have been Completely and Thoroughly Cured by—

DR. PARKER'S

GREAT INDIAN RHEUMATIC REMEDY.

As the following Cases can testify.

Rheumatism Cured.

(EVERYONE A HELPLESS CRIPPLE.)

ALFRED ADAMS, Master Tailor, residing at No. 62 Highbury Grove, East Prahran, aged 42 years, Rheumatism for fifteen years, all joints swollen, contracted and very painful, had lost the use of limbs, and for TWO YEARS HAD NOT WALKED AT ALL, knee joints being contracted. Had the best advice and various remedies with no effect, and had given up all hopes. After use of Dr. Parker's INDIAN RHEUMATIC REMEDY can walk about, do work, leg contractions have come down, and has been free from pain for over twelve months. October, 1898.

MISS MARY DAVIDSON, daughter of Senior Constable Davidson (retired), well-known for years in the Bendigo District, residing at "Crimea," Bournell-street, Brunswick. Had Rheumatism in every joint for ten years, years on crutches, and for two YEARS HAD NOT WALKED AT ALL, all joints stiffened, contracted, distorted and perfectly useless; life made miserable, helpless. Case pronounced hopeless by leading Melbourne Doctors. Had electric baths, rubbings, and endless so-called remedies, without derriving any benefit therefrom. After taking Dr. Parker's GREAT INDIAN RHEUMATIC REMEDY is free from pain. CONTRACTIONS HAVE COME OUT, can walk without aid of crutch or stick, assist in household work, visit friends, and is in good health. Miss Davidson is known by many people, and the case is considered marvellous.

NOTE.—Miss Davidson was a perfectly helpless invalid cripple in bed for years, with all the joints of the body contracted, stiffened and useless, and the leading doctors of Melbourne had pronounced the case incurable.

JOSEPH BROOKS, Market Gardener, of Camberwell-road, Camberwell, completely crippled with muscular Rheumatism, could not move shoulder joints and had intense pain on movement. Had given up hopes of ever getting well again. After taking Dr. Parker's GREAT INDIAN RHEUMATIC REMEDY is free from pain, and can carry out his usual occupation.

174 Cope-street, Fitzroy, 23rd August, 1898.

Mr. C. F. Parker, Fitzroy.

DEAR SIR,—In grateful testimony to your skill for having cured me of a very painful attack of Rheumatism. I suffered great pain, having the joints swollen. After a short while under your treatment, I completely recovered. It is now over three years ago since I was cured, and I have kept well, being now 64 years of age. I consider your antidote the marvel of the age for suffering humanity.—Yours very truly,

PROFESSOR W. T. LAMONT,
Ventriloquist and Entretenir

DR. PARKER'S GREAT INDIAN REMEDY

is perfectly MARVELLOUS, and is the true antidote for all acid diseases, the causition of Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, &c. It has cured the above and many hundreds of others in this State. It will relieve the pain in a short period, and with a fair trial will cure the most obstinate case. It has been now in use for seventeen years, and owing to the large demand is now on sale at the principal storekeepers throughout the Commonwealth. The above statements are true to facts, and can be verified, being well-known people residing in Victoria.

Be sure and ask the local agent for DR. PARKER'S GREAT INDIAN RHEUMATIC REMEDY. Price, 2os., which contains a sufficient supply to last from ten to thirty days, according to case.

NATURE NEVER FORGIVES.

PAYMENT ALWAYS EXACTED WITH INTEREST.

Is it wise to tamper with one's health by neglecting nature's dictates, wearing water-logged or paper mache boots, porous mackintoshes, or thin garments, going without warm comfortable clothing,

WHEN WE OFFER

Such values and give terms for payment that are unexcelled in the State?

TAKE BOOTS. We are the sole retailers of Hugh Thomson & Son's grand Foot-wear. Solid Leather; wear like iron; absolutely the best Colonial Boots made.

THEN "MACS." The only thing cheap about our Mackintoshes is the price. We buy direct from the manufacturers, so that we can thus retail them to our customers at Wholesale Price. Prices, 10s 6d, 12s 6d, and 21s up.

AND MANTLES. We have just unpacked a special consignment of Ladies' Jackets; extraordinary value; latest German Manufacture, 6s 11d, 10s 6d, 13s 6d, 17s 6d. See our Windows.

OR CLOTHING for Gent's and Boys.' We have a grand selection, stylish English cut, something out of the common, with no slop cuts--all at prices that speak aloud for themselves.

Yours for Sound Solid Goods,

J. R. WOTHERSPOON & CO.,
BEAUFORT and BUANGOR.

A compensating element worked strongly in favor of Alfred Woodbridge, East Brunswick, who was summoned for neglecting to send his son Henry to school last week. He informed the Bench with some pride that he was the father of 17 children, and he had never been summoned in respect of any of them. Defendant said he was "very hard up," and the child in question had been kept away to assist him. Mr Wallace, J.P., said:—Taking into consideration the valuable services the defendant has rendered to the State, the case is withdrawn. (Laughter.) The defendant left the court smiling.

A monster deputation of all ranks of the police force interviewed the Premier on Tuesday, with the object of supporting the determination of the Cabinet to reduce the retiring age to 60 years. The question has been the cause of some warm feeling in the force, and it found frequent expression during the course of the interview, which lasted two hours and a half. Mr Gaunson, special representative of the public service, introduced the deputation, but some five other members of Parliament thought it necessary to give the deputation the benediction of their presence and the benefit of their advocacy. The Premier led off by propounding a series of questions—one relating to the allegation that the Government had appropriated £70,000 belonging to the Police Superannuation Fund, another asking the deputation where he was to get £40,000 or £45,000 a year to pay police pensions, and others of a cognate character. The deputation endeavored to answer the questions, but as the Premier had already made up his mind what to do, the speechifying was a mere beating of the wind. The interview was marked by some unseemly wrangling, in which Mr David Gaunson took a very willing part, and in which the Chief Commissioner, whose views on the age question were being overridden, very naturally retorted with considerable heat. The Premier had on several occasions to interpose to prevent the altercations degenerating into a brawl. When Mr Bent thought there had been enough of it he replied to the point. The age of retirement would be fixed at 60. The announcement elicited a demonstration of applause. "I don't care 'tuppence' for either your cheers or your groans," remarked the Premier. The Government could not be backing and filling, he said, so he had determined the matter. The deputation withdrew in a very jubilant mood, and with a consensus of opinion that the Premier was a "jolly good fellow."

A sufferer from chilblains finds turpentine, well rubbed on, the most satisfactory remedy tried yet. When the rubbing is done at night, an old pair of stockings should be put on afterwards to avoid soiling the bed clothes.

SHORTHAND.

MISS NICKOLS has vacancies for pupils for Shorthand. Terms, etc., at "The Firs," Beaufort. 22/6/04.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH JUNE.

THE HELLERS,
Assisted by a select Company.

PROF. G. W. HELLER,
Renowned Entertainer.

MADAME MAUDE HELLER, Psychonetist.
MR. J. NORRIE, Baritone Vocalist.
MR. J. A. DODDS, Musical Specialist.

GRAND BIO-TABLEAUX.

Great Fire Scene, "CRUMBS AND FRETMERS"; A TRIP TO THE MOON.

PRICES—2s. and 1s.; Children, half-price.
GEORGE CALLENDER, Manager.

Progress Tent, I.O.R., No. 43.

THE usual FORTNIGHTLY MEETING will be held on FRIDAY, JULY 1st, in place of Wednesday, 29th June.
J. M. CARROLL, Secy.
June 24th, 1904.

SHIRE OF RIPON.

TENDERS, addressed to the President of the Shire of Ripon, and enclosing five per cent. cash deposit (minimum deposit £1, in cash or marked cheque), will be received up till 11 a.m. on Monday, 4th July, 1904, for the following works:—

Contract 271.—Spreading maintenance metal, and supplying and spreading gravel near McIntosh's corner, Eurambeen.

Contract 272.—Re-forming, spreading maintenance metal, supplying and spreading gravel near McIntosh's corner, Eurambeen.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the Mechanics' Institute, Skipton; Greyhound Hotel, Snake Valley; and Shire Hall, Beaufort.

E. J. MUNTZ, B.C.E., Shire Engineer.
Shire Office, Beaufort, 23rd June, 1904.

SHIRE OF RIPON.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the position of KEEPER of the BEAUFORT WEIGHBRIDGE, returnable by 11 a.m., MONDAY, 4th JULY. Commission—half fees.
J. M. CARROLL, Shire Secretary.

SHIRE OF RIPON.

BYE-LAW NO. 10.

REGULATION OF SPEED OF MOTOR CARS, MOTOR CYCLES, AND BICYCLES.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Bye-law made at a meeting of the Council of the Shire of Ripon, held on the Sixth day of June, 1904, regulating the speed of Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, and Bicycles within the Shire of Ripon, will be confirmed at a meeting to be held at the Shire Hall, Beaufort, at 11 a.m., on 4th July next.

J. M. CARROLL, Shire Secretary.
Shire Offices, Beaufort, 21st June, 1904.

L. BRAVO,
Hairdresser and Tobacconist,
NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT,

Begs to notify the public of Beaufort and district that he has commenced Business, and hopes by strict attention to business to receive a fair share of public patronage.

SHAVING, 3d.; HAIRCUTTING, 6d.
CHILDREN, 3d.

A Good Assortment of PIPES, TOBACCO, and CIGARS kept in Stock.
A trial solicited. Satisfaction guaranteed.

NOTICE TO FARMERS.

DIXON BROS.,
Stock Station, Grain and Commission Agents, Valuators, and Export Produce Merchants,

Wish to notify the farmers of the surrounding district that they have leased the premises lately occupied by Mr. J. Cuthbertson as Steam Chaff Mills,
OPPOSITE CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.

MONTHLY STOCK SALES

WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THEIR AUCTIONEER, MR. W. H. HALPIN, EVERY THIRD THURSDAY. SEVENTH SALE, THURSDAY, JULY 20th, 1904. Good yarding advised.

Sales Conducted in any part of the State. Entries received by Mr. R. G. KIRKPATRICK, Local Agent, or Mr. Hill, Camp Hotel.

For PRIVATE SALE, Single-seated ABBOTT BUGGY, two WAGGONETTES, and a second-hand DOUBLE AND TREBLE FURROW PLOUGH. Several FARMS in GEELONG district for SALE or LEASE.

Horse Rugs, Tarpaulins, Water Bags, and Coach Buggy Rugs a speciality.

Agents for Mitchell's Agricultural Implements, Wood's New Century Binder, also agents for the famous Barger Discs.

DIXON BROS., Lawrence Street, BEAUFORT.

LAND SELECTION.

BEAUFORT COMMON.

MAY, 1904.

To Lease-holders, Land-owners, and Others.

HAWKES BROS.

Beg to notify having made very special arrangements for a large supply of

FENCING MATERIALS,

Including an Extra Big Stock of

BEST GERMAN BLACK FENCE WIRE,

No. 8, at 10s per cwt. Net Cash.
Ton Lots, £9 15s per ton.

This is an Extra Low Price, and takes effect for this month only.

GALVANISED WIRE NETTING,

In all widths, gauges, and meshes. A few examples—36in. x 1½in. x 18g., at 19s 6d coil (100 yds.); 36in. x 1½in. x 17g., at 24s 6d; 42 x 1½in. x 18g., 24s 6d. Special Quotations for Quantities.

GALVANISED FENCING WIRE, No. 8, 13s; No. 10, 14s cwt.
do. BARB WIRE, No. 12 (440yds.), 17s; No. 14 (700yds.), 19s.
LACING WIRE, FENCE DROPPERS (Wood and Steel), STAPLES, NETTING FASTENERS, and all other Requisites at Lowest Current Rates.

BUILDING MATERIALS.

Large Stocks of Hardwood, Pine Weatherboards, T. and G. Flooring, Doors, Sashes, Lime, Cement. Prices on Application.

FURNITURE,

Direct from makers, to suit all purses. Inspect Show Rooms.

District CASH BUYERS of GRAIN, in any quantity.

Also on hand CHAFF, OATS, BRAN, and POLLARD, at Lowest Rates.
A Special Line of FOWL'S WHEAT at 10s Bag.

NOTE ADDRESS—

HAWKES BROS.,
MERCHANTS,
Neill Street, BEAUFORT.

How a Bachelor Was Caught.

By G. E. T.

George Rowland was a bachelor, and, what is more, he said he meant always to remain one.

His father had endowed him with education, and money enough to have set him up in any profession he might have preferred. He took the money and bought a farm in one of the rural districts of Berkshire, and applied his education to the cultivation thereof.

If what he knew about farming was theoretical rather than practical, such was not the case with his right-hand man, Paddy Malone, from Tipperary, who could "handle a spade or swing a scythe with any b'y in the three kingdoms, be jabers!"

Thus, both having been very badly treated by the fair sex they justly believed them to be unworthy the consideration of any enlightened tiller of the soil.

As to the interior department, it was managed by an old dame who had long since outlived more tender sentiments, and who was partly deaf. Paddy Malone said he wished sometimes she were totally so, and dumb into the bargain.

On the whole, George Rowland considered that he had brought the arrangements of his household to as near perfection as circumstances would admit of.

Nevertheless, there were occasional jars which shook the whole fabric to its foundation.

It is one of these I am going to relate now. It was a rather warm day. Paddy was ploughing in the field, and George was sitting in his library engaged in theoretical agriculture, when Dame Higgins apeared at the door and, with an automatic curtsey, uttered the words, "The butter, sir."

"Well, what about the butter? Haven't you sent it?"

"The hampers haven't come back."

"Those hampers again! Well, whose fault is it this time?"

"Mr. Miller's and Miss Coutt's, sir."

"It always 'is' their fault. Well, you can go; I'll settle it."

The automaton disappeared without a word, and George drew his chair to the table and wrote two letters. The first was to Mr. Miller, an old school-fellow and friend, and ran thus: "You old reprobate, what a nuisance you are, why don't you send back those hampers?"

The other, being addressed to a lady, was couched in language distinct and respectful. The letters were duly posted and on the following day Mr. Miller's answer came: "Dear George," it said, "as my name isn't Miss Vera Coutts, I presume the enclosed was intended for somebody else."

"The enclosed" was the painstaking epistle to Miss Coutts—the letters had got into the wrong envelopes, that was all—and the lady had doubtless some time since received the one designed for Miller.

There was nothing contained in the letter, as George distinctly recalled, to show that it was not meant for her, and she must regard it as a deliberate insult. His first thought was, "Oh, well, she does not know me otherwise than the man who supplies her with butter; I shall lose a good customer, probably, and that will be the end of it." But George was a gentleman, and he could not rest easy under the imputation of rudeness to a lady. All the innate chivalry of his nature protested against it. He seized his pen with the purpose of writing an apology, but remembering that he was going to Reading the next day, on business, he threw it down again, saying, "I'll call on the old lady and offer my apologies in person."

Accordingly, on the following afternoon he stood on the steps of Miss Coutts' residence, and rang the bell somewhat impatiently, for he was already late and desirous of continuing his journey. A servant opened the door; to her he gave his name and requested to see Miss Coutts, and was shown in a room which struck him as exceedingly cheerful and homelike. It was unoccupied, excepting by a parrot, which, with its head cocked on one side, seemed to regard him with suspicion.

The parrot's cage hung in the bay-window, and underneath it was a small stand, on which stood a work-basket with a piece of embroidery thrown carelessly over it.

"Parrots and fancywork—um—the usual adjuncts of ancient maiden ladies. Women never did do any good in the world yet, so I suppose a parrot's cackle is quite enough to amuse them," he said to himself. As if in response to his thought, a light footstep was now heard on the stairs, and Miss Coutts stood on the threshold. There she paused in momentary surprise and embarassment.

She had expected to see a middle-aged countryman in rustic garb—perhaps in a smock-frock. She saw a well-dressed young man, a little sunburned, to be sure, but bearing the unmistakable marks of education and good breeding.

But if she was surprised, he was no less so, for, instead of the ancient maiden of his imagination, there stood before him a young and blooming maiden clad in muslin and pale pink ribbon.

"Miss Coutts—Miss Vera Coutts?" he murmured, hesitatingly.

She bowed assent.

"I owe you an apology for a letter which you probably received yesterday a most atrocious letter, but which I beg you to believe was never intended for you."

"Then you are Mr. Rowland, and the author of that letter?" and, struck with the absurdity of the whole transaction, she burst into a merry, ringing laugh.

"I fear I must plead guilty to both indictments," said he, joining in the laugh, and repeating his apology.

Of course, you see that after this it was all easy enough, and George soon found himself talking with Miss Coutts more freely than he had ever talked with any young lady before.

At last he made his farewell bow, but everything seemed destined to turn out contrary to his expectations on this memorable day and just as he opened the hall-door, an elderly gentleman came rushing up the steps, exclaiming, "Just escaped!"

"From a lunatic asylum," Mr. Rowland was thinking, when out tripped Vera, and, patting the supposed lunatic on the shoulder, said, "Oh, papa, how wet you are! I was sure it would rain, because you went without your umbrella! it always does. Do you know Mr Rowland, papa?"

"Happy to see you, Mr. Rowland. Pray don't think of going out in this shower. I barely escaped a drenching myself;" and, followed by George, he trotted into the sitting-room.

Papa Coutts was a fat, podgy little man, who always trotted when he walked, and fidgetted when he sat still. He had a shining bald crown which lay in its fringe of hair like a goose's egg in its nest, and a beaming face which would have expressed nothing but good nature but for a pair of shrewd black eyes which seemed to look through everything at once. Being not only given to hospitality, but of an inquiring turn of mind, it was not long before he discovered that George was from the country, and a farmer.

"Why, I was born on a farm myself, sir," said he, "and, please Heaven, I mean to die on one. I've been in Reading thirty years, and I may say, without boasting, that I've prospered pretty well, considering I came here with all my worldly goods tied up in a pocket-handkerchief. But I tell you, sir, I've never spent any happier days than when I was a boy on the old farm, and was awakened every morning by the rooster crowing under my window.

"You keep fowls, I suppose?"

George replied that he did.

"Of course—what would a farm be without fowls?" and then they discoursed of Shanghais and Cochin Chinas, of farm drainage and sub-soiling, and while they were in the midst of it the dinner-bell rang, and Papa Coutts insisted that George should stay and dine. This he readily consented to do, forgetting all about his appointment elsewhere. He could not refrain from drawing some comparisons between his own table and that of his host, and more especially between the young hostess, who presided so gracefully, and the grim automaton who served him his own tea and coffee.

When George had gone Mr. Coutts declared he was "the most interesting young man he had seen for a long time." Probably George reciprocated the good opinion, for he became very attentive to the old gentleman, and never went to Reading—and somehow he frequently deemed it necessary to go there now—without giving them a call.

Of course he always saw Vera on these occasions, and before many months he found an opportunity to whisper something in her ear which caused her to say, "Oh, I'll manage papa"; and she did.

She took him one day, after an especially good dinner, when he was feeling very good-natured and comfortable, and, having prepared his mind to hear a great secret, she blushingly said

"I've had a proposal of marriage, papa."

"Well, there's nothing very wonderful in that—I thought you'd had several."

"But I am going to accept this one—that is, if you are willing."

"Well added; and who is the happy man?"

"Mr. Rowland, papa."

"What, that young farmer? Why" —with a merry twinkle in his shrewd black eyes—"I thought if he was in love with anybody it was with me."

"But seeing that it is not you, papa, you don't object to him for a son-in-law, do you?"

"No, not seriously; but, Vera, you remember only yesterday he brought me a peck of peas and a fowl which must have been in the nature of a bribe, the rascal."

EYE-STRAIN HEADACHES.

It is not an exaggeration to say that eye-strain is more frequently the cause of headache than all other causes combined, yet it is perhaps the most frequently overlooked, not only by the sufferers themselves, but also by their medical advisers. Many and many a person who had been a martyr for years to periodical sick-headaches, had consulted physician after physician, and had dieted, taken "headache cures," and done everything but the right thing, has finally had his eyes tested and fitted with proper glasses and then found the headaches disappear as by a miracle.

The eye-strain headache is of no special type, and perhaps this is why it is so often unrecognised. It may be only an occasional dull pain in the forehead or temples, it may be a general soreness, or it may be a throbbing, racking headache which the slightest noise or a bright light makes unbearable. It may be constant, it may be irregular, or it may recur with the regularity of a malarial attack.

The only effective treatment is removal of the strain by correction of any imperfection in the eyes and by a reform of bad eye habits, such as reading very fine print or reading in a poor light or in a railway train.

But a word of caution is most necessary here. The glasses must be fitted by a skilled oculist after a careful examination of the eyes, for badly fitted glasses will only make matters worse, and by leading the patient to think that the eyes are not in fault, cut off all hope of a cure by a competent oculist.

SMALL CHANGE.

"Small talk" is the small change of the mind. He is poor who has nothing else, but he is crippled who has none of it.

Small talk has a bad name, because it is often flippant or silly or ceaseless. It need not have any of these qualities any more than silver coin need be soiled, or worn beneath its value. Thoughtfully and properly used, small talk is an accomplishment—like singing or playing the piano. It may be on a lower plane than these, but it is ever more practical as an equipment for life.

How to acquire it? That is another story, and a more difficult one: but the warm heart and the willing tongue and the clear mind can find a way.

ON HIS DIGNITY.

"I don't like a fellow to domineer over me," said the young man, with a patient disposition.

"Who has been doing that?"

"Fellow I chum with. He borrowed my evening dress suit one night before Christmas."

"Pretty cool cheek that?"

"I didn't mind it. But when he asked for my umbrella, I told him I might want it myself. But he got it, all the same."

"How?"

He simply said: "All right, have your own way. They are your own clothes, not mine. I'm trying to keep them from getting spoiled."

INFLUENZA

Can be cured by commencing, at the first symptoms, to use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Thousands have used this remedy during the past year, and we have to learn of a single case where they were not pleased. For sale by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Bonnington's Irish Moss
Cures Whooping Cough, Croup, All Chest Affections. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

The authorities have now been enabled to ascertain what the coronation of King Edward had cost. The total expenditure amounted to £359,289.

'LINSEED COMPOUND,' for Coughs and Colds. Gives instant relief to Asthma and Bronchitis.

Board of Advice.

A meeting of the Board of Advice for the North Riding, Shire of Ripon, was held at Mr Browne's office on Saturday afternoon. Present—Messrs A. Parker (chairman), J. W. Browne, G. Topper, and D. D. Cameron (correspondent).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From H. J. Richards, head teacher Middle Creek school, stating that the children and he were preparing for the planting of trees on Arbour Day, 24th inst., and asking to be supplied with 50yds. of wire netting; also inviting attendance of representative from the board.—Netting supplied by correspondent, whose action was confirmed.

From W. J. Cowley, head teacher Waterloo school, asking if any member of the board would be at the school to address the children on Arbour Day.—Received; members of the board regretting that they would be unable to attend.

From Miss Agnew, head teacher Mt. Cole Flat school, drawing attention to the school site being unfenced on one side, and asking if the board were willing to assist the parents to fence the ground.—Consideration deferred till next half-year, with a view to asking the Department to allow the work to be done out of the next half-yearly allowance.

From same, drawing attention to leak in tank.—To be attended to.

An account from Kewley Bros., for £4 10s., for repairs at Beaufort school, was ordered to be transmitted to the Department.

From Education Department, re Arbour Day, requesting board to co-operate with head teachers in improving school grounds; also pointing out that where schools are unfenced, tree-guards can be supplied by local subscriptions.—Received.

From Truant Officer W. McMahon, forwarding return of attendance at district schools for March quarter as follows:—Beaufort, 216; Waterloo, 171; Raglan, 118; Middle Creek, 44; Main Lead, 38; Chute, 37; Trawalla, 37; Mt. Cole Flat, 21; Sailor's Gully, 18.—Received.

From same, forwarding quarterly return of irregular attendances, and recommending five cases for prosecution.—Recommendations adopted.

Snake Valley.

The half-yearly meeting of the Carnghan Brass Band was held on Saturday. The election of officers for the ensuing six months resulted:—Bandmaster, Mr Geo. Krick; assistant bandmaster, Mr E. Anderson; president, Cr. J. S. Douglas; vice-presidents, Admiral Bridges and Mr J. Ryan; treasurer, Cr J. S. Douglas; trustees, Crs. Douglas and Stevenson, Messrs E. Anderson, T. Nugent, C. B. Williams, and W. Aislett; secretary, Mr A. Baxter; assistant secretary, Mr J. Burgdorf; committee, Messrs E. Anderson, T. Nugent, W. Bass, and G. Burgdorf; auditors, Messrs D. Matheson and G. Burgdorf.

Arthur Hatfield, whilst cycling down the Ballarat road hill towards Linton, received a nasty fall through the chain of the machine breaking, and his right wrist was fractured.—*Courier.*

SENT NINE BOTTLES OF CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY TO HER FRIENDS.

"A lady customer of mine was so well pleased with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy which she had used for her children when suffering from colds and croup," says F. W. J. Fletcher, a chemist at Homebush, Victoria, "that during a fortnight's time she obtained at my shop nine bottles, which she sent to friends in different parts of the State, telling them how much good it had done and advising them to give it a trial." Sold by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

A remarkable act by a Newfoundland dog, belonging to a resident of Maldon, was witnessed last week. The dog had often been worried by a little terrier belonging to a neighbour, and after a particularly vicious attack the Newfoundland picked up the terrier in his mouth and walked off with it to a dam close by. He carried the terrier to the middle of the pond, and held it under the water till it was drowned.

CLARKE'S 41 B PILLS are warranted to cure in either sex, all acquired or constitutional Discharges from the Urinary Organs, Gravel and Pains in the Back. Free from Mercury. Established upwards of 30 years. Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the world. Proprietors, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England.

On the opinion of the legal advisers of the Municipal Association it has been accepted by the majority of municipal bodies that to ensure enrolment interest had to be paid on rates overdue six months after the striking of the rate. An opinion contrary to this has been furnished to the Dundas Shire Council. A local paper states that Messrs Palmer and Son, solicitors, have informed that body that in their opinion the mere non-payment of interest will not disqualify ratepayers, and quoted sections 71 and 77 of the Local Government Act in support of their contention. These sections provide that persons who have "paid their rates" on or before 10th June are entitled to be enrolled in that year, and that separate voters' lists shall contain the names of all persons, otherwise qualified, who have "paid their rates." Rates and interest are distinct imposts. Interest on rates is not a new liability—it has existed for many years, but it was never contended, until the question was submitted to the Municipal Association, that a ratepayer was disqualified on account of non-payment of interest. On the other hand we have the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Northcote v. Lyons that "interest on a rate becomes added to and forms part of the rate without any further order or action on the part of the council, and the incidence of the rate attaches to such interest both as to its collection and enforcement."

For Children's Hacking Cough at Night, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

The Cabinet has decided to appoint the Chief Justice and Mr Justice A'Beckett commissioners to open the State Parliament on the 29th inst.

COAGULINE. Transparent Cement for broken articles.

CURED OF NEURALGIA.

"I had been suffering for some time with a very bad attack of neuralgia," writes E. J. Potter, Esq., of Yea, Victoria, "when I was informed by Mr Fred. Purcell, of the establishment of Messrs E. S. Purcell & Co., that Chamberlain's Pain Balm was highly recommended for my complaint. Acting on his suggestion, I bought a bottle, and as soon as I returned home, applied same according to directions, and to my great delight I experienced immediate relief, and it only took a few applications to effect a complete cure." For sale by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Important to Applicants for Mining Leases.

Applicants for leases within the district covered by *The Riponshire Advocate* are invited to peruse the following facts:—

The New Mining Regulations require that when a lease is marked out the applicant "shall insert in a newspaper PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT WHERE THE LAND IS SITUATED, or if no such newspaper, then in the one published nearest the district, an advertisement of notice in the form marked A in the schedule prescribed."

Ten days are allowed, after marking out the lease, in which to lodge the application with the Warden or his clerk, and forward a duplicate to the Minister of Mines.

The word "district" in the regulations has been defined by the Crown Solicitor to be read as locality, and not as mining district, and the lease should therefore be advertised in the paper nearest the land for which application is to be made. As TEN days (not seven as formerly) are given in which to complete the application, no valid excuse can now be urged for failure to advertise the lease in the district paper, though it is only a weekly, and not a daily issue.

This is borne out by the following memo. from the Mines Department received by Mr H. A. Adams, *Grenville Standard*, Linton.—"Sir,—Referring to your communication, I have the honor to inform you that the Warden's clerk at Smythesdale has been instructed to advise intending applicants for mining leases, where opportunity offers [i.e., for tendering such advice], that the regulation relating to advertising their applications should be STRICTLY ADHERED TO.—I have the honor to be, etc., P. Cohen, for Sec. of Mines and Water Supply."

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

Does your head ache? Are you constipated and feel dull or depressed after eating? You are suffering from indigestion and are paving the way for more serious illness. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets are just what you need. They will assist the digestion, regulate the bowels and give you new strength and vigor. For sale by J. R. Wotherspoon & Co., Merchants, Beaufort.

Skipton.

An elderly man named William May, employed at Carranballac station for the past 15 years, died suddenly on Friday week. He was sitting reading the paper, when he fell forward on to the floor. On being lifted, it was found that life was extinct. A magisterial inquiry was held on Saturday; Dr. Donaldson giving the cause of death as syncope.

Lambing is almost completed in this district, and some excellent percentages are reported—Mount Widderin, 80%; Borriyallouk, 84½; Springbank, 72; St. Enoch's, 92.

Bonnington's Irish Moss
For Sore Throat, Colds, and Hoarseness. Children Hacking Cough. CERTAIN CURE.

The P. and O. steamer Australia was wrecked on Point Nepean on Monday morning. Nearly 300 people were on board. All were saved. Pilot Dennis was in charge. He was seized with severe illness. The passengers and crew behaved splendidly. The captain complains of delay in answering signals. The passengers were transferred to a lifeboat and brought ashore; then on to Melbourne. The Lascars were detained under police guard pending deportation.

Several accidents having occurred at Snake Valley within the past year or two through children ignorantly handling dynamite caps, the local board of advice has written to the Education Department, advising that blank caps be forwarded to each State school to serve as an object lesson in warning the children.

It was elicited in a recent suit to settle some matrimonial differences that Beecham, the pill magnate, derived an income approaching £80,000 a year from the sale of his pills.

Italian papers relate a remarkable story of an Italian girl, who returned to that country after having worked for two years in the Great Fingall mine, West Australia. The girl says she wore a false beard the whole time, lived in a tent, and saved up £100, which she took back to her family.

Mr Watson anticipates making the Federal Budget speech about the end of July. He states that the postal revenue of the various States is keeping up very well.

Bonnington's Irish Moss
For Stubborn Coughs and Colds. Children Hacking Cough. CERTAIN CURE.

A rabbit trapper named Burgess made a peculiar discovery at Horsham on Thursday week. He was trapping some rabbits, and detecting a smell of honey coming from one of the burrows, he dug it out, and found a large swarm of bees. The honeycomb reached from the bottom to the roof of the burrow, which was situated in a sand hill.

For Chronic Chest Complaints, Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s. 6d.

Addressing the volunteer corps at Freshwater, in the Isle of Wight, where he resides, Lord Tennyson said that when required Australia could put into the field 20,000 light horse, and some of the finest mounted troops in the world.

'LINSEED COMPOUND,' of 38 years' proven efficacy, for Coughs, Colds, Asthma and Bronchitis, &c.

A CASE IN CARLTON.

A Convincing Proof.

The Case of Mrs L. STEPHENS.

(By a Melbourne Reporter.)

After the hearing of such evidence as was forthcoming from Mrs. Lillian Stephens, of No. 548 Lygon-street, Carlton, we can confidently recommend our readers to peruse it and allow them to arrive at their own decisions. Mrs. Stephens said:—

"Seven years ago I was fortunate in getting rid of an illness which seemed to have got hold of me for life. This was before I was married, when I used to work a sewing-machine a good deal, and when I was at my home in Newham, not far from Kyneton, where I also lived at one time."

"What was the nature of your illness, Mrs. Stephens?"

"Well, my father and everybody thought I was going into consumption, but, thank God, my case was not that. No; but you would have thought so, to look at me; my face was so deathly white, and there was not the slightest particle of colour in my lips either. And, oh! how terribly thin I was—for all the world like a shadow, instead of a human being, and there was just about as much, or, rather, as little, life in me as could be expected in one so frail and delicate. It was poorness of blood I was suffering from, and I believe I would be nearer the mark if I said I had no blood in me at all, for I was as weak as it was possible to be. I felt it was a trouble to do anything, the least exertion always being sufficient to exhaust me so that for an hour or two I would be almost helpless. This wretched feebleness was not my only trouble, as I was afflicted in ways that would have distracted a woman much stronger than I was. I had such headaches as you never heard of—racking, piercing pains that dulled my intellect and made me so despondent and mopish that I could not find the least interest in anything in the world. May heaven spare other women from becoming half as down-hearted and miserable as I was, for I positively felt weary of life. The food that was given to me, let it be as tasty and nicely-prepared as possible, I could scarcely touch, for if anybody had a wretched appetite it was myself."

"That was unfortunate, as you were deprived of the chance of gaining strength from nourishing foods?"

"Yes; it was a great pity," replied Mrs. Stephens, with a sigh, "and then, again, I could not digest the food I did swallow. That was worse than ever, and that's how it was I kept so low and feeble, and I suppose the extreme weakness I was labouring under accounts for my nervous system becoming so unhinged. But here, I could go on for another hour talking about my ailments, but I think what I have said should suffice to give other sufferers an idea of the alarming state of health I was in, and for their sake I am only too glad to tell you the wonderful things that happened when I started to take Clements Tonic."

"Were you advised to adopt that course?"

"It was through reading a book that was put under my door that I gave Clements Tonic a trial, and I always say how glad I am that I read a case like mine in it, because I was then encouraged to try that splendid remedy, which was really the best I had ever taken. I say this because Clements Tonic made my health better than it had ever been before, and after a while you should have seen the look of surprise that was written on the faces of those who had thought I was going into consumption. It would have done you good, and, my word, nobody was more surprised than myself, for I felt a different woman altogether. My nerves soon stopped trembling and my nervous fears were quickly abandoned. Instead of being downcast and fit to cry every minute I became happy and bright, the reason being that Clements Tonic had made my blood rich and had given me strength, which also came from the food which that remedy enabled me to eat and digest. My pains all went, and for the past seven years my health has been grand, for which I am very thankful indeed."

"And you would make your thankfulness known?"

"Yes most willingly, so publish what I've told you in any form you like."

STATUTORY DECLARATION.

I, LILLIAN STEPHENS, of 548 Lygon-street, Carlton, in the State of Victoria, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have carefully read the annexed document, consisting of four folios, and consecutively numbered from one to four, and that it contains and is a true and faithful account of my illness and cure by Clements Tonic, and also contains my full permission to publish in any manner my statements—which I give voluntarily, and without receiving any payment; and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of an Act of the Parliament of Victoria, rendering persons making a false declaration punishable for wilful and corrupt perjury.

Lillian Stephens

Declared at Carlton, in the State of Victoria, this 12th day of January, 1904, before me,

HY EDWARDS, J.P.,

A Justice of the Peace in and for the Central Bailiwick of the State of Victoria.

Railway Time-Table.

The following is the new railway time-able, which took effect on Monday, 2nd May, 1904:—A mixed train leaves Ballarat at 11.20 a.m., Trawalla at 12.7 p.m., reaching Beaufort at 12.22, and taking its departure at 12.30. It leaves Middle Creek at 12.54, and Buangor at 1.4. The Adelaide express still leaves Melbourne at 4.40 p.m. (Sundays excepted), Ballarat at 7.50, and Beaufort at 8.44 (arriving here at 8.39). On the return journey to Melbourne (Monday excepted) the express leaves Beaufort at 6.25 a.m. (arriving here at 6.20). The afternoon mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat runs every week day. It departs from Buangor at 4.45 p.m., Middle Creek at 4.55, Beaufort at 5.30 (arriving here at 5.20), Trawalla at 5.54, and Burrumbeet at 6.9. A mixed train will also leave Ballarat and intervening stations to Stawell on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5.10 a.m. (arriving here at 6.50 a.m., and leaving at 6.55 a.m.), and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 5.15 p.m., Burrumbeet at 6.9, Trawalla at 6.35, Beaufort at 7 (arriving here at 6.50), Middle Creek at 7.30, and Buangor at 7.42. The morning mixed train from Stawell to Ballarat leaves Stawell at 6 a.m. instead of 6.15 a.m., and is timed to leave the district stations every week day as follows:—Buangor, 7.48; Middle Creek, 8; Beaufort, 8.37 (arriving here at 8.27); Trawalla, 8.50; Burrumbeet, 9.16.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER,' for it *will positively restore in every case Greyer White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere. Wholesale depôt 33, Farrington Road, London, England.

T. E. SANDS,

Cash Grocer,

Begs to inform the public of Beaufort and district that he has removed his business to the Corner of NEILL and LAWRENCE STREETS, BEAUFORT, and by keeping only Best Quality Goods, at Lowest Rates, hopes to secure a fair share of public patronage. Orders called for.

W. EDWARD,

Painter, Paperhanger, and Glazier

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Dealer in Paints, Oils, Colors, Paperhangings Window Glass, Varnishes, Brushes, etc., etc.

All sorts of Vehicles Re-painted. Estimates given in town and country. All Painters' Requisites kept in stock.

W. EDWARD NICKOLS & CHESTERFIELD

(LATE W. EDWARD NICKOLS),

Auctioneers and General Commission, House, Land, and Insurance Agents,

BEAUFORT, ARARAT, AND PITFIELD.

MR. J. H. CHESTERFIELD, Auctioneer.

☞ MONEY TO LEND.

AUCTION SALES CONDUCTED in any part of the State of Victoria.

Every attention, and prompt returns.

W. EDWARD NICKOLS & CHESTERFIELD, Auctioneers.

CAMP HOTEL, BEAUFORT.

THE PROPRIETOR of the above well-known Hostelry, in thanking residents of Beaufort and district for the very liberal patronage bestowed on the house during the past two years, takes this favorable opportunity to let them know that the HOTEL has lately been thoroughly RENOVATED, PAINTED, and where necessary, RE-FURNISHED, and patrons will now find the

Accommodation Unsurpassed in the District.

Best Brands of Wines, Spirits and Ales will be retailed, as heretofore, with every civility.

WILLIAM J. HILL, Proprietor.

F. G. PRINCE

Begs to intimate that he has STARTED BUSINESS as a BUTCHER in premises in

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT

(next door to Mr. T. Sands), and hopes by strict attention to business and by keeping the Primest Meat, to merit a fair share of public patronage. Small Goods a Speciality.

J. B. COCHRAN begs to intimate that having purchased Miss Wilson's Stock of FANCY GOODS, TOYS, CONFECTIONERY, etc., he intends carrying on this Business in conjunction with his NEWS AGENCY and STATIONERY BUSINESS, in the premises formerly occupied by Miss Wilson, next door to Wotherspoon & Co's. Ladies are notified that Afternoon Tea can be obtained. Accordeons, Concertinas Violins, and Musical Sundries kept in Stock A good assortment of Pipes Tobacco, an Cigarettes

WM. C. PEDDER,

Wheelwright and Blacksmith,

Begs to thank the public of Beaufort and surrounding district for their patronage during the last 15 years, and to intimate that he is still carrying on business at the same old address,

NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT,

with a staff of skilled mechanics and up-to-date machinery, and is prepared to execute any orders entrusted to him with promptness and despatch. Prices as low as possible, consistent with good workmanship. Horses as usual carefully shod.

Police Magistrate's Fixtures.

The following are the police magistrate's permanent engagements in the Ballarat district, with the necessary proviso, added by Mr Dickson, "unless otherwise engaged":—

Ballarat—10 a.m., daily.

Ballarat East—10 a.m., 3rd Wednesday and fourth Thursday.

Beaufort—1.30 p.m., 1st Thursday and fourth Tuesday.

Bungaree—9 a.m., 4th Monday.

Buninyong—3.15 p.m. 3rd Friday.

Carngham—2 p.m., 2nd Wednesday.

Gordon—9 a.m., 2nd Monday.

Linton—2 p.m., 1st Saturday.

Learmonth—12.30 p.m., 1st Tuesday.

Kaleno—11 a.m., 2nd Tuesday.

Scarsdale—Noon, 3rd Thursday.

Sebastopol—3.30 p.m., 2nd Thursday

Skipton—10 a.m., 2nd Wednesday.

Smythesdale—Noon, 3rd Tuesday.

REFERRING TO THE NEW

REGAL CLUB WHISKY,

Which since its importation to Victoria, within the last six months, has established itself in public favor to an extent HITHERTO UNEQUALLED PROBABLY BY ANY OTHER WHISKY THAT HAS COME INTO THE STATE, the following Certificate from one of the most eminent of English analysts gives it at once a hall-mark of superiority, which must recommend it to the confidence of every consumer:—

CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify that I have submitted to a very careful Chemical Analysis a sample of the REGAL CLUB WHISKY received from the Imperial Glenlivet Distillery, Strathspey, N.B., and the analytical data I have obtained proves it to be, in a conclusive manner, a product of high quality and purity. It possesses a mellow and creamlike flavor that is only to be found in the choicest whiskies, and is entirely free from all acrid or undesirable admixture. It has been thoroughly and naturally matured by age, and contains restorative and dietetic properties of a high order.

GRANTVILLE H. SEARE, F.C.S., Analyst, London, E.C.

J. R. WOTHERSPOON & Co., Agents.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

In thanking the public or the support accorded me for the past 4½ years, I beg to announce that I have taken the

Golden Age Hotel, Beaufort,

And trust by keeping the very

Best Liquors in Stock,

to receive a share of public patronage.

I will be in possession on and after Saturday, January 30th.

MEALS a Specialty, from 1s.

A careful Groom always in attendance.

C. W. JONES.

Without Leaving Your Fireside

and with no more trouble than the writing of a letter, you can purchase one of our

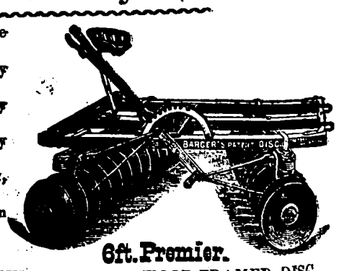
FAMOUS

Two-Guinea SUITS to Measure

Lincoln, Stuart And Co. Prop. Ltd.

The only Machine that leaves Land Perfectly Level.

This Patent Style of Machine is the only machine perfectly and completely controlled by Compound Levers to instantly set machine in and out of cut, or deeper or shallower when travelling. Made all size.



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PATENT MALLEE KING STEEL OR WOOD-FRAMED DISC, Renowned for immense quantities and quality of work done.

Leads Everywhere.

ORCHARDIST'S EXTENSION DISC

Patent Extension and Reversible Double Beam Steel Frame Orchard Cultivator, will extend out to 10ft. or 12ft. wide, and close up to 5ft. 6in. Simple and easy managed in every particular.

ONE-HORSE or PONY DOT,

For smaller Growers, suitable for Vineyards, Nursery Growers, Small Orchards Potato and Onion Growers, is built on Reversible and Extension Principle.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES.

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☞ AGENTS FOR BEAUFORT AND DISTRICT—DIXON BROS.

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