

Quoting Her own words.
Mother (sternly)—Willie, you took one of these preserves from the pantry.
Willie (shrewdly)—Oh, who told you that?
Mother—No one told me. I suspected it.
Now, tell the truth! Didn't you?
Willie—Ma, "children should be seen and not heard."

First Gathering of Labor Agitators.
"Of course you have read of the confusion of tongues at the building of Babel."
"A gathering of labor agitators, I suppose. No; I haven't read it. Tell the truth. I'm not interested in trades unionism."

"Of course you have read of the confusion of tongues at the building of the tower of Babel?"

ellesley Maple Leaf,

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INDEPENDENT.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The drag-net of the protest is as fish-net and more intricate since our last issue, luring another loss to the community in the unsentimental of Miss Phyllis, of Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, in South Oxford, and called in Lennox, retain their on a very close shave.

The Ontario House meets this week. Beyond deciding the matter, the firmly Ross is established in seat, there does not seem to be very exciting legislation. The power question is quite important, but there is no apparent opposition between the government and the opposition over the way of doing the matter. The high voted for prohibition in December calls for something in the of "sop" to soothe the propensities, but the House can be expected to prepare a measure which not prevent either Ross or they from posing as the only pure defender of the Prohibitionists or Antis, as the case require. The proper development of New Ontario is safe; now Gamey has "dipped." In fact House ought to have a peaceful on and just long enough to allow members to draw their full annual allowance.

Have not heard that the names to be taken off the ballot at session of the House; or that farmers' sons are to get an allowance at registration with young floating population of county towns; or that an indent and auditor is to be appointed Ontario. Whitney will, no doubt, flaunt his popular majority 300 votes in the face of the argument and say the people these changes. But Ross can naively observe that between elections, the protest courts, bye-elections, and an occasional "pop," it is evident to him that people like the good old way best.

The Dominion House will also this month. Wellesley section is interested in this session charter is being applied for to a railway from Berlin west to this place. It is also expected that as soon as charter is secured the question is promptly presented to the members of Berlin, Waterloo and section with a view of building a road at once if the people are by their vote that they want the Directors are reasonable or bonus demands there seems now but little doubt that the ads will be met.

The business of manufacturing is being boomed in Canada a tremendous rate at present. At number of new companies are being formed, and as most of money to build them is being raised from the public, mainly in rural districts, the following, gleaned principally from the daily Times, and the Publishers, will be of interest: In 1902 the consumption of cement in Canada reached its highest point, namely, 1,045,000 barrels. In 1903 were made in Canada 400,000 barrels imported. In 1902 only three companies engaged in this manufacture. In 1903 not less than five companies got under way. Several of them, however, are more than get started and are only about 100,000 barrels. In 1903 we shall have all

the old factories in operation and with largely increased outputs, and also the five new companies above mentioned. The output will then be for 1903, 1,600,000 barrels, that is to say over 600,000 barrels more than the total consumption of last year. In view of these facts you will perceive that the warnings contained in the Monetary Times and Mail and Empire as to the danger of overproduction were well timed and should be carefully heeded by the investing public. But when we tell you that in addition to the five new companies so started last year we have ten new companies now being floated in the country which are to have, according to the promoters, a combined capacity of 10,200 barrels per day, equal to an annual capacity of about 3,500,000 barrels, the after folly of putting money into more cement enterprises will be apparent.

It is clear then whatever money is made in Canada out of the cement industry hereafter, will be made in promoting companies and not in operating them. It is alleged that gentlemen who two years ago floated the Durham Company cleaned up half a million of dollars out of the flotation on a capital of \$1,000,000. The same gentlemen are found promoting, in different parts of the country, several new companies on a scale still more ambitious than the Durham Company. For instance the Belleville Portland Cement Co. is to have a capital of two and a half millions of dollars and an output of two thousand barrels per day. Can they be putting any of their own money in them? If the flotation of the Durham company could yield the promoters a half a million of dollars the thought of what there be in store for the floaters of the Belleville Portland Co. with a capital of two and a half millions, fairly makes one's mouth water.

The foregoing article puts a very strong case against investing in cement shares, and no doubt, with much truth, but, on the other hand, the output so far, has never been anything like sufficient to supply the demand. This demand for cement is still increasing by leaps and bounds, and since not only side walks and floors can be made from it, but also bridges, streets and actually building walls, it would seem that there ought to be an annual market for much more than even the estimated output for 1903—one million, six hundred thousand barrels. But the thought of the ten new companies, with their annual aggregate production of an additional three and a half millions staggers one and makes the intending purchaser of shares feel shaky. It seems doubtful that the American market can be profitably supplied from Canada when we consider the freight charges and the fact that all the cement machinery, as well as the coal to burn it, comes from the States.

SLAVES OF FURNITURE.

The Result of Women Being Afraid of Beetles and Mice.

If man is the slave of a dog, woman is the slave of furniture. If women only know how much more graceful—and the only way is to appeal to their vanity—they would be reclining on the floor, they would never sit up on chairs or round a table. That is a fact, mentally true is proved by the fact that they are never so happy as at a picnic, where there are no chairs and tables. I really believe that the craze for getting everything on something above the floor by which I mean tables, sideboards, etc., grow from the custom of sleeping in ugly, cumbersome and dirt collecting beds instead of on the floor. Of course the reason why women do not sleep on the floor is because they are afraid of beetles and mice and other harmless things. Women, therefore, having invented the bed, invented the table to stand by it, and thus spread the habit of putting everything above the level of the floor. Woman's original sin of being afraid of black beetles and mice costs many more than all the royalty, armies, navies, pension lists, prisons, poverty, schooling, national debts and wars of Europe. I am sure I am not putting it too high

when I say that the average cost of furniture per house is \$1,000, and if the world would only agree not to clutter its rooms with beds and tables, sideboards, cabinets and chairs our ground rents would be about half what they are, and the overcrowding of our cities would come down proportionately. — "Domestic Blunders of Women."

The Conductor's Honest Raft-off.

A conductor of a Sixth Avenue car, during a lull in the ringing of fares, stood passing coins from one hand to the other, turning up the date of each coin as he did so. "There are more ways of making money than by 'knocking down' fares," he remarked, noting the inquiring look on a passenger's face. "Any greenhorn can pocket a dozen nickels in collecting 120 fares in a car built for forty-eight passengers, but a man has got to know something to spot a coin that has a premium value. It's surprising how many more or less rare coins pass current without falling into the hands of some one who knows their value. This was suggested to me one day, and I took to studying the catalogue of dealers in rare coins and memorizing the dates of those that are worth more than the prices stamped on them. Since then I have picked out of the money I have taken in fares several hundred coins with a premium value ranging from a few cents to \$5 and have redeemed them with my own money and sold them to dealers in coins."

A Monster Bird.

Freddie—Ma, the bat is the biggest bird that flies, ain't it?
Ma—By no means, Freddie.
Freddie—Well, anyway some of 'em must be mighty big, 'cause I heard father say he was out on one last night.

Juvenile Logic.

Mother—To think that my little Ethel should have spoken so impudently to papa today at dinner! She never bears me talk in that way to him.
Ethel (stoutly)—Well, but you choosed him, and I didn't.

Ambiguities.

"Dear Father—We are all well and happy. The baby has grown ever so much and has a great deal more sense than he used to have. Hoping the same of you, I remain your daughter, Mother."

Conservative.

She—Why don't you go out occasionally, dearest, and enjoy yourself, say at the club?
He—But I don't want to get into the habit of having a good time.—Life.

Little Men.

Little men are the disappointed and defect of God's purpose in making men. All men were intended to be great—some greater than others, but all great.—Bishop Candier in Atlanta News.

More deaths from snake bites occur in India in houses than in the fields or in the jungle.

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DISRICT NOTES.

The death occurred in Midway on Sunday, March 1st of Mr. James D. Parsill in his eighty second year. Deceased took part in the rebellion of 1837 under William Lyon Mackenzie, Charles W. Parsill, of Linwood is one of his six sons.

During the year 1902, two men in America were killed in prize-fights; and during the football season, the three last months of 1902 there were twenty-one players killed. Fifteen of them died of broken backs or broken necks.

A "slick" calling himself Jas. Miller of Akron, Ohio, who managed to escape from Brantford with a typewriter two weeks ago was arrested in Stratford last week.

Missouri editors, it is said, are refusing to publish obituary notices of people who during their lives failed to subscribe for their home papers, claiming that people who do not take the home papers are dead anyway and their mere passing is of no news value.

St. Catharines, March 2.—A fatal accident occurred this afternoon at the Parnell homestead farm, Grantham Township, when Louis A. Parnell, was instantly killed, and George, a younger brother, narrowly escape a similar fate. They were engaged taking down a barn, when an extra bent gave way, causing the building to collapse with out warning, burying beneath it the two sons. The younger escaped with slight injury, but the elder was crushed to death by heavy timbers.

A cyclone struck the passenger steamer, Olive, plying between Franklin Va. and Edenton, N. C. on the 16th ult and sent her on her beam ends. 17 passengers were drowned.

A Michigan paper reports a marvellous case. A year ago a needle entered the waist of a young lady at Crosswell. Recently it worked its way out of the arm of a Carsonville young man who makes frequent visits to Crosswell. The physicians are in a brown study over the incident, and lady friends of the young man have grown green with jealousy and gone into black rage at the lady of the needle. Altogether, the case seems to be highly colored.

The death occurred in Tavistock on Feb. 29th of Mr. John Holmer in his seventy-eight year. Deceased kept a blacksmith shop at Petersburg in 1847.

Stratford, March 4th.—A terrible tragedy was enacted last night when Harry Ernest Ballard committed suicide at his home on John Street, shooting himself with a Manser rifle through the right temple. The affair happened about 12.30 a. m., and death was apparently instantaneous. He was found on the bedroom floor with a hole in his forehead. At the outbreak of the war he enlisted for active service in South Africa, and went with the First Contingent, under Col. Otter, and after seeing active service at Paardeburg and other engagements, winding up at Bloemfontein and Pretoria, he returned home. Previous to his departure as a member of B. Company, rte. Ballard was presented with £10 by the city Council. This was given to him at London, two of the aldermen, Messrs. H. Baker and J. D. Hamilton, making the presentation. Pte Ballard was in the Canadian detail which was reviewed at Windsor by her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and had a South African medal with four bars. On his return to Stratford he was presented with a gold watch, being banquetted by citizens at the Albion.

When the last C. M. R. contingent left Canada, Pte Ballard again enlisted, and returned to this city only last fall. He was wounded at Harte River, and might have been killed there, but the Canadian badge which he wore turned the bullet aside.

The unfortunate young man was well known to the most Stratford people. He was a Sergt-Major in

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connection with No. 2 Co. of the 28th Rgt. and had always been a good soldier. He had a good education, intelligence beyond the average, and was well read. He was 26 years of age.

N. S. Bouman, who has been a merchant in Conestogo for over 35 years, is retiring this spring.

Mr. Lemuel sold his farm, near Wallenstein, to Martin Frey recently for \$3,700.

The Elmira Felt Co. is enlarging its plant the coming summer on account of the increased business.

A. J. Brewster, town clerk, and one of the oldest and most highly esteemed residents of Hespeler, died last week, in his 67th year.

The small-pox outbreak in Hespeler cast the town a little over \$500.

Some time ago A. Patullo, M. L. A. addressed a gathering of idiots in the Orillia asylum. In introducing him Dr. Beaton told his patients that Mr. Patullo was not used to addressing so intelligent and good looking an audience. Wasn't that a hard knock on the legislature?

The Forbes Mill, in Hespeler, has reduced the hours of work in their factory by 40 minutes per day without reducing their employer's pay. There is rejoicing among the hands in consequence.

Rev. Jas. Ambrey has resigned his charge at Monkton and will retire for a time.

The liquor license fee at Parry Sound has been raised to \$1000.

A GOOD ONE ON HIM

A French Canadian horse buyer who was doing business in North Ontario recently tells the following on himself: It was at a canning-ton hotel. At the table there was a fair intelligent looking man, and I think I got some information from him, so I say "Dere is going for be an election here soon; dis man Foster, it seems lak he going to have a bad tam for get in."

De man he no mak reply, so I go for mak frens wid him and I pass him de bread and de butter and den I say again: "Dis man Foster, it seems lak he going to have a deville of a tam for get in. Dat man he is—"

"Den he stop me an' say: 'You don't live in dose parts,' and I say: 'No, I live in Montreal,' and he say: 'I tot you no live in dose parts, dat is may mom'."

PHOTOS

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