

The Daily Leader

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H. T. STEVENS,
MANAGER

RESOURCES DEVELOPED AND OTHERWISE.

The people now living are the most important people to whom consideration can be given. The dead require nothing more of an earthly nature, and those who are to live may well be allowed to shift for themselves as, generally speaking, their fathers did. It is well not to destroy valuable resources, but it is also well to utilize those we have, so as to make them of service in promoting the well-being of the race. Canada has great wealth in natural resources, undeveloped or only partly developed, and it is the duty of legislators and others to give needed encouragement with a view to making them valuable.

Take our fish, for instance; an official authority puts the value of the Dominion fisheries last year at \$20,719,583, and we are told that as regards the catch for 1894, Nova Scotia shows an increase of \$140,107, New Brunswick \$60,545, and Quebec \$84,481. The Prince Edward Island catch fell off \$13,630. The British Columbia catch declined \$493,484 in value. The total capital invested in vessels, boats, nets, seines and buildings connected with the Nova Scotia fisheries is placed at \$3,361,972; New Brunswick, \$1,680,912, and Prince Edward Island, \$468,735. The total value of the Dominion fisheries aggregated \$375,139,892, from 1870 to 1894, inclusive, of which \$165,658,341 is credited to Nova Scotia, \$71,737,732 to New Brunswick, and \$23,089,129 to P. E. Island. The total number of men engaged in the fisheries is placed at 25,477 for Nova Scotia, 11,650 for New Brunswick, and 3,329 for P. E. Island. The total number of claims received for fishing bounties in 1893 was 13,977, a decrease of 850 as compared with 1892. The number of claims paid was 13,635. Of the total amount paid out in bounty, \$158,794, Nova Scotia received \$108,066; New Brunswick, \$12,524, and Prince Edward Island, \$9,329. Of the amount going to New Brunswick, 4,427 went to Charlotte county.

These figures are of more than passing interest. They indicate clearly one strong and sure foundation on which Canada's future is to be built, but they also suggest the important fact that great as are the values received from the fisheries there is room for much more to be obtained without injury to this source of national wealth. There has been no diminution in the profits of the fisherman, except as values have varied, and it will be apparent that much more employment might be found on our fishing grounds than there is now without injury to this industry. A like remark is applicable to freestone, inexhaustible quantities of which await a market. For years past the one thing wanting has been a profitable market. The cost of production has become cheaper in the years since our quarries were profitably worked and there is much reason to believe that to-day we have resources in freestone that can be profitably developed.

Our knowledge on this subject does not warrant a strong opinion, but it is evident that the working of the stone quarries, within a few miles of us, would be of immense advantage to every interest in the country, while the facilities for cheap production and transportation warrant a careful consideration of the subject on the part of the people who would profit by the establishment of so important an industry. Those who can recall to memory the benefits felt by a large section of the country from the working of the Albert free stone quarries, many years ago, will appreciate the value, locally and generally, of such an industry.

The whole subject is worthy of thought, and the LEADER would be glad if any of its readers could and would assist it in stimulating thought in regard to the general subject under consideration, in hope that such thought would develop action that would do much to assist in tiding over the temporary depression felt to some extent in business circles throughout the province.

WOMEN DETECTIVES.

IT IS SAID THEY SURPASS MEN IN CATCHING SHOPLIFTERS.

An admirable female detective system is in vogue in a number of the leading dry goods houses of this city.

It has been proved beyond a doubt that the female thief catcher is more effective in the unveiling of shoplifters than the most sagacious sleuth in the secret service department of the city of Boston. Thief catchers like the veteran Joe Knox, for instance, cannot ply their vocation with any degree of success for any length of time in a large and flourishing dry goods house. This is because of the fact that their identities become known to the dry goods thief after a time, and it goes without saying that the shoplifter will not begin operations until all danger of discovery from that quarter has passed away. The professional shoplifter is as familiar with the figure of the inspector as she is with her own likeness. For this reason unassuming and unsophisticated maidens are put on the qui vive to ferret out wily shoplifters and bring them to speedy retribution. The girls assigned to prosecute detective labor are well adapted for the work mapped out for them. The superintendent or chief floor walker is pretty certain to select a girl with accomplishments befitting the detective. If she is lacking in acuteness and fails to perform her work satisfactorily another is substituted in her stead and the benighted one is given a position in the store.

Nor does the competent detective depend entirely upon her wits in determining who is a shoplifter and who is not. She is generally a reader of character and is very apt to ascertain by a study of a face whether its owner is a designing person or not. The shoplifter often excites the suspicion of the spotter the moment she enters the store. There are certain airs of uneasiness in her deportment that catch the practiced eye of the young sleuth at once. Women who invade dry goods houses for the purpose of larceny have not the fullest confidence in their dexterity to purloin an article from the counter without exciting suspicion. The "professional" never attempts a theft without first feeling certain that she is not watched, yet it frequently happens that when she is convinced that there is no danger of detection the eyes of the female spotter are upon her, and she is trapped in the act.

Miss Fannie Leahy, and Miss Kittie McNamee, are the young detectives who are employed to keep a vigilant lookout for evildoers at a big concern in Pemberton square, and very watchful and conscientious detectives they are, as their efficient services distinctly show. Miss McNamee is a modest little girl of 17 years, with jet black hair and cheeks like a blush rose, and is considered the most prepossessing girl in the business.

Her partner, Miss Leahy, is an attractive blonde, with a natty figure. Each has her own district to patrol daily, but sometimes both can be seen in deep conversation in the little office on the Pemberton square side. The most cautious shoplifter would fail to detect in the demeanor of the twain the nature of their calling, and thus it is they are able to expose more wrongdoing in the store than any of the inspectors at police head quarters.

When a shoplifter is caught dead to rights, she is asked if she will not "pay for the articles" stolen. This interrogation is merely made in order to elicit an admission of guilt from the thief. She is then taken to the office to await the arrival of an inspector from police headquarters. If she has the appearance of a woman of means, she can easily procure bail and thus escape the pain and dejection of a night in prison.

In speaking of her experience, Miss McNamee says that a large percentage of shoplifters are women of good families and comparatively well off in worldly goods.

"We have to watch pretty carefully to catch the professional shoplifter," she began. "You see, they are up to all sorts of chicanery and can easily hoodwink the salesgirl, who may be busy with half a dozen customers at the same time. You would never believe, to see those women on the street in all their finery, that they would steal. Some of the shoplifters are born thieves. They haunt the dry goods houses and steal every time they get a chance. You may not believe it, but I can tell at first glance the woman who comes here to steal deliberately."

"Her eyes are a sure index to her thoughts, and when you see a woman glancing searchingly about her you can depend upon it that she means to steal. Women with an untroubled conscience do not act in this way."

There are three detectives in one store, and still the pillering of the firm's property goes on from day to day. There is the woman who carries off articles in a closed umbrella, and there is the woman who manages to convey property to a neatly arranged receptacle in her underdress lining. To be on to these tricks the female detective must be ever on the alert and nip the thief on the fly. There are a thousand and one devices performed by shoplifters, but not one is unknown to the cunning spotters. Then, again, the female detective officiates as a sort of forewoman over the employees. They are certainly looked upon as superiors by the girls, yet it is not known that they ever reported any inattention on the part of employees to customers. It has been always their policy to prefer charges only when the evidence is very strong, for if their claim is not sustained trouble follows. It is claimed that it has never occurred that the detectives were in fault in accusing a person of theft.—[Boston Traveller.

WITHOUT A DOLLAR.

The Boston Globe says John L. Sullivan, who for so many years held the sceptre of king over the sporting fraternity of the world, and whose returns to Boston have always been welcomed by cheering crowds and small fortunes in admission money, returned last week unwelcomed and with hardly enough money in his pocket to pay for a week's lodging at a first class hotel.

In the height of his power, when his reputation as the greatest knocker-out was indisputable, little Pat Coakley, Boston's famous gambler, made the prophecy that inside of ten years Sullivan would want for the dollars he was then throwing away so recklessly. This prophecy has come to pass.

There are few men here who have more opportunities to accumulate a fortune than the ex-champion. All kinds of estimates have been made of John's winnings, and the least conservative of these agree that from the day he met Joe Goss in Music Hall in 1880 up to the present he has received and spent over \$500,000. His career, so far as money making enters into it, has been a marvellous one, ranging from a night's receipts in Boston of \$15,000, to \$100 or \$1,000 for the simple use of his name, either as an advertising dodge or to boom some theatrical combination.

Some instances of his recklessness and carelessness, and his spendthrift methods, are told in the story of his memorable knocking out tour. It was his custom to enter a bar room and lay \$100 upon the counter and order wine for the party refusing the change. If he was hilarious he has been known to recklessly dash down pyramids of glasses or hurl champagne bottles into elegant mirrors, and calmly ask the cost and pay for the damages. There have been days when he has spent \$2,500 and there have been weeks when his outlay amounted to \$10,000.

For this insane pleasure of burying a colored man's face in a squash pie he paid the man \$50. For the privilege of knocking a waiter down in Yeaton's oyster house, on Washington street, he paid \$4,000. For brutal pastime of kicking two offending grays he paid \$200. He gave his friends carte blanche one night to drink to his health, and they punished \$1,000 worth of wine. Another favorite pastime was to scatter small coin of all denominations, from a dollar under, recklessly, as he passed along the streets, for the mob that always followed him to scramble for.

There are hundreds of men who are indebted to him for amounts ranging from \$100 to \$10,000 which they borrowed under promise to pay, who still owe him the money, and, as he has no record of these loans, he is not likely to ever receive a single dollar of it.

A pitiful story, a crying beggar, a man, woman or child in misfortune, could have anything he had, even the coat that he wore on his back.

FOREST FIRES.

Telegraphic reports show that serious forest fires are raging at several points throughout the province. Much valuable timber and wood lands are being devastated.

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"Well, I tell you that first day is one I'll never forget. I just bubbled with joy. I wanted to hug everybody and tell them my own self had died yesterday and my new self was born to-day. Why didn't you tell me when I first wrote that I would find it this way?"
And another thus:
"If you dumped a cartload of gold at my feet it would not bring such gladness into my life as your method has done."
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