

THE WOODSTOCK DISPATCH.

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Editors and Proprietors

WOODSTOCK, N. B., OCT. 5, 1898.

"THE THUNDERER."

This is the nick-name which the London Times has long borne. It probably arose from its force in advocating any measure and the extent to which its voice reached. It used to be a saying that the London Times always supported the existing government. It claims, no doubt, to give a general support to any administration in power, but on special occasions it is outspoken and denunciatory. Every one who ever read a newspaper has heard of the Times, but it has always been held that the expense of this journal was so great that only the select few could take it, and moreover, that the daily Times was too ponderous a journal for the ordinary individual to wade through. It may not be generally known, that the Times issues a concise weekly edition. Such is the case however, and this weekly edition can be secured for the sum of 13 shillings or \$2.60. This is very cheap considering the value of the weekly Times. It is particularly valuable to those who take an interest in affairs of the Empire and the affairs of Europe. The editorials are written by the most competent judges of the special subjects, of which they treat, in England. The Times correspondent is everywhere. In the last issue one of them devotes a page and more to a letter from Dawson City. Another, no less a man than Col. Rhodes represented this great journal in the Sudan. Col. Rhodes has just received back the commission taken away from him, owing to his connection with the famous Jameson raid. In every European capital the Times correspondent gets at the actual news, and presents it to his paper. From a literary point of view, the Times is excellent, the editorials being models of the English, and the correspondence scarcely less purely written. It has a legal column which must be of great interest to gentlemen of the long robe.

In these days of the extension of the Empire, every intelligent man should keep posted to the uttermost, and by securing the Weekly Times he has the leading journal of the capital of the Empire.

THE RESULTS OF WAR.

When war was declared between the Spain and United States, a great wave of patriotism swept over the country, in spite of the fact that leading journals asserted that the States had no cause for war, and were making a mistake in going to war. When the signal for the loosing of the dogs, came, all sprang to arms, metaphorically speaking. The battles resulted in showing the superiority of the U. S. to Spain, especially as regards armament. At any rate Uncle Sam had an easy victory. Now there are ugly rumours of disagreement between those at the head of affairs. Miles and Shafter don't love each other, people say. Sampson and Schley never speak as they pass by, in their big ships. Gen. Alger the secretary of war is openly accused of allowing politics to interfere with the management of his important office, and in reply scores if he does not silence, his critics by accusing them of lack of patriotism. Such a cry, the old sage, tells us was the last resort of a scoundrel.

Then there are the perplexities of the situation. Cuba doesn't seem to know what she wants. The Philippines are a mystery. And the Monroe doctrine is an infant looking around for a cruel mother who has left it to wander at its own sweet will.

But then there are the glory and the decorations, the honours for the few heroes, the plums for the fortunates.

And was not the war worth this?

The Government Spirit Monopoly.

An interesting report on the working of the government monopoly of the sale of spirits in Russia by Mr. Carnegie, Second Secretary to the British Embassy in St. Petersburg, has been issued by the Foreign Office. Mr. Carnegie begins by describing some of the systems which preceded the present one, such as the monopoly of 1819 in

the wholesale spirit trade, the farming system, which previously existed and was introduced in 1826, lasting until 1862, and the excise system, which was instituted in the latter year. The system of monopoly in the sale of spirits was under discussion from 1885, but for several years after that the fiscal results of the existing excise system were so successful that it was not disturbed; but the famine of 1891 probably hastened the introduction of the new system, and it began as an experiment in January, 1895, in four provinces first. In one of the reports of the Minister of Finance to the Emperor the monopoly was described as a means by which an end might be put "to the grievous influence of the retailers of spirits on the moral and economic condition of the people." It is stated that it is not intended to increase the revenue directly, any increase which there may be in this respect being due to the cessation of abuses and the improvement in the general economic condition of the people. Moreover, spirits of a deleterious character will not be sold, and it is also hoped that the system will aid the small agricultural distiller and place him on an equal footing with the great industrial distiller. The monopoly does not extend to wine or beer; the manufacture of spirits still remains in the hands of private persons, but no distillery must produce more than its greatest production during any one of the three years preceding the introduction of the system in the district, and no new distillers can be erected or old ones reopened without the consent of the government. The amount required in a district is fixed by the Minister of Finance, and two-thirds of this amount is furnished by local distilleries at a fixed price; the remaining third is acquired by contracts. Spirits required by manufacturers of liquors must be purchased from the government, and, in the interests of public health, no unrectified spirits are allowed to be sold, the government making itself responsible for proper rectification. The latter is done in government establishments, whence the spirits are issued for sale to the dealers. The spirits are issued in bottles of various sizes, with quantity, strength, and price on the labels, and, with few exceptions, these bottles must not be opened on the premises, the prices on the bottles must not be increased, and the only interest of the sellers is a small commission they get from the government. As to compensation, the keepers of spirit-shops who have not been employed under the new system have not been compensated at all, for, as a semi-official publication puts it, "In Russia there can be no question of giving compensation to the evicted retailers of spirits. The license they were granted by which they were permitted to carry on their deplorable business has always been considered by the legislature, the Administration, the public, and by themselves as a permission liable to be withdrawn without explanation or comment." Some compensation, however, has to be given to the rural communities and municipalities, whose revenues suffer by the system. In 1895 the monopoly was introduced first to Perm, Ufa, Orenberg, and Samara provinces, where the consumption of spirits was comparatively small, though the area was large. The following year it was introduced into nine more provinces, and in July, 1897, into seven more. On January 1 last it was extended to Poland and five more provinces, including St. Petersburg, so it is in operation in about half of European Russia. The reports as to the effect of the system in the four provinces first tried seem to have been satisfactory, on the whole, as regards the decrease in drunkenness, and apparently the Government made considerable profits. In St. Petersburg, however, there has been a good deal of discontent, owing to the number of persons thrown out of employment and to a reduction in the number of beer licences, although the monopoly was supposed not to affect the sale of fermented beverages. On the whole question Mr. Carnegie concludes that it is not just or advisable to criticize a reform of such a drastic and far-reaching character before it has been thoroughly organized, "for it is almost certain that the monopoly, when once in working order throughout the country, will increase the revenue of the State, and will act at the same time as a check on the intemperance which at present is unfortunately so prevalent among the uneducated classes of the Russian Empire."—London Times.

Baby Eczema and Scald Head.

Infants and young children are peculiarly subject to this terrible disorder, and if not promptly arrested it will eventually become chronic. Dr. Chase made a special study of Eczema and disease of the skin, and we can confidently recommend Dr. Chase's Ointment to cure all forms of Eczema. The first application soothes the irritation and puts the little sufferer to rest.

Giving Allowances to Girls.

Every self-respecting woman, be she maid or wife, has a natural and intense dislike to ask her father or husband for every penny she needs. Nor is the feeling lessened by the fact that the money can be had for the asking and is always given ungrudgingly. It is the asking which women dislike. They justly recoil from it, and men ought to understand it better than they do. It should be said the husband who refuses to give his wife a regular allowance is rapidly becoming

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the exception. But there are still too many fathers who withhold an allowance from their daughters. If it be true that the average girl has no idea of the value of money how will she ever gain a better knowledge of its worth unless she be given the opportunity? Our girls must be educated in money matters and there is no surer method than by giving them money of their own to spend: a regular weekly or monthly allowance given them to cover certain regulated expenses. It is only natural that at the start a girl will spend foolishly. To meet this inevitable experience the amount of the allowance should be accordingly regulated. After awhile, however when she gets accustomed to the handling of money, she will learn its value better and be more judicious in spending it. But the experience must be had: the lesson should be taught. It is unfair for a father to say that his daughter shall not go into the market place, and then also withhold from her allowance.

Aside from the feeling of self-reliance which an allowance gives to a girl it means her best preparation for that time when her husband places money in her hands for conducting her home. Her allowance, as a girl, will make her more familiar with money when she grows to womanhood. A father in these days, when so much is expected of woman, does an incalculable wrong to his daughter by withholding an allowance from her. On the contrary he consults her wisest development when he gives her a certain amount each week or each month, as much as he can afford, not as a privilege so much as her right. It is his duty, as a father, to see that his daughter becomes familiar with the very feel of money: to an understanding of its value, and to a knowledge of the difficulty of earning it and the wisdom of judiciously spending it. To give a girl an allowance is, I repeat, not a privilege, but a right. To withhold it is to do her a serious wrong, and likewise is an injustice to the man whom she will marry and whose money she will be incited with to spend wisely. She should have experience before she reaches that point, and that experience can only come to her from her father in an allowance of her own while she is his daughter in his home.—Ex.

"MY FRIEND'S DESPAIR."

La Grippe and Nervous Prostration Had Brought Captain Copp Near to Death—South America Nervine was the Life Saver.

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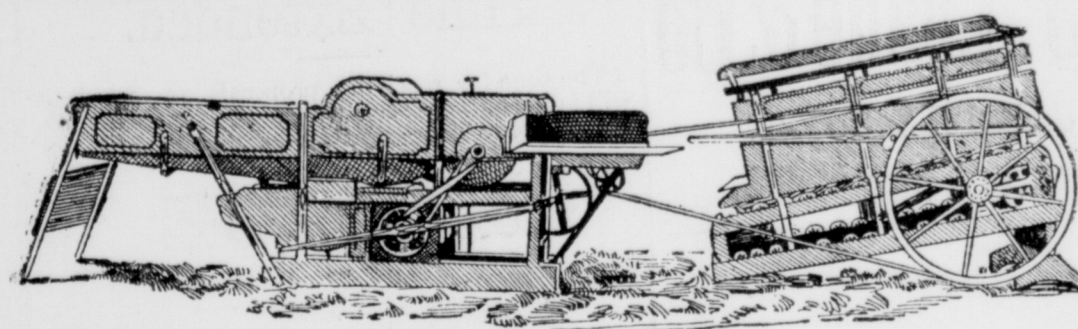
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