

**History of Dynamite Monopoly.**

The history of the Transvaal dynamite monopoly is a curious and somewhat complex. The story begins with the granting by the government in 1888 of a concession to E. Lippert, empowering him to establish in the South African Republic a factory for the manufacture of powder, dynamite, and other explosive materials. Lippert made over his concession, after the usual manner, to a company, consisting largely of French shareholders, L. G. Vorstmann and E. Lippert being appointed managing director and head agent respectively. Instead of manufacturing explosives, however, the company confined itself to importing them. On this the British government entered a protest, on the ground that the concession was in violation of the 14th article of the London convention. The concession was therefore cancelled, not without serious complaints from the French government on behalf of the French shareholders.

To smooth over a somewhat difficult situation—the Transvaal government being placed between two fires—the government assumed possession of the monopoly, granting, shortly afterwards, a contract with Vorstmann in respect of the agency thereof. There is reason to believe that the French company acquiesced in this arrangement, in return for some consideration received. At any rate, it withdrew all its claims against the government for compensation arising out of the cancellation. About this time a fierce antagonism arose between Lippert, as representing the holders of the concession, and Nobel and Company, who had previously dominated the market, the scene of the conflict being the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines. The ultimate outcome of the conflict was that Nobel and Company came to terms with Lippert, and in 1894 entered into an agreement to float the South African Factory for Explosives with a capital of £450,000 in £1 shares. Out of these shares 220,000 were to be issued against payment, 25,000 were to be granted to Lippert, 182,500 to the old French company (as compensation for the cancellation of its contract; and 22,500 to a certain Dr. Gobert, a German lawyer, for "services rendered." Beyond this, the new company undertook, in return for some undisclosed services, to pay 2c. a case to Messrs. Lewis and Marks (a well-known Pretoria firm), and to fulfil the obligations undertaken by the old company against Lippert.

All this time, between 1888 and 1894, the price of dynamite had been coming down. Before and up to 1886 Nobel and Company had charged as much as 150s. per case for delivery at Barberton. Against this high price it has to be remembered that carriage by ox-waggon was then a risky and expensive. In 1890 Messrs. Nobel, according to correspondence published by the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines, offered to reduce the price at Johannesburg to 100s. per case for not less than 50 cases, the Chamber declining to bind itself to any such proposal. In 1894 a special committee of the Chamber, of which Mr. Lionel Phillips was chairman, made a proposal for the formation of an independent company, in which mine-owners should be shareholders, to supply dynamite at a minimum price of 90s. per case till the company had paid a dividend of 10 per cent. for three years. In the meantime, the South African Factory for Explosives held the monopoly, and fixed the price at from 85s. to 87c. 6d. per case. It cannot, therefore, be said that at that time the price charged by the holders of the concession was exorbitantly high.

The point on which the question of cancellation or expropriation has arisen is simply this—Has the company fulfilled the conditions of the contract defining the nature and extent of the concession. In September, 1893, the Volksraad passed certain regulations relating to this concession or monopoly. By these regulations it was, inter alia, laid down (1) that the quantity and quality of all articles manufactured must be subject to government approval; (2) that a factory must be erected within a certain specified period; and (3) that if the regulations were not complied with the concession might be cancelled. The report of the Industrial Commission which was set in 1897 went to show that the price charged, as compared with the cost of dynamite in Europe, was excessive, and that the factory, though very complete in its way, was not really a factory for the manufacture of explosives, seeing that all the different materials had to be imported, four tons of raw material being required to make one ton of dynamite. None of the raw material required was found in sufficient quantities in the Transvaal; coal was more expensive; labor cost three or four times as much as it cost in Germany; and the cost of transport made the materials used excessively dear. Hence the Commission urged that steps should be taken for the termination of the concession, either by cancellation or expropriation, the government, in the opinion of the Commission, being under no necessity to resort to expropriation.

Thus the history of the matter is brought down to the present date. There can be no doubt that the chief consideration present to the mind of the Transvaal government in granting the monopoly hesitating to abolish

it has been the desirability of maintaining a factory for explosives within the country, and there can be little doubt that the holders of the concession have traded upon this anxiety. That the price of dynamite has been too high, that the profits reaped by the holders of the monopoly have been enormous, and that the company—as President Kruger admitted at Bloemfontein—have taken advantage of the terms of their contract to build up a heavy claim in view of expropriation—of all these things there can be no doubt. At the same time the dynamite grievance has been considerably exaggerated; for it has been shown that a reduction from 75s. to 45s. per case would only make a difference of about sixpence a ton in working expenses at the mines. It remains, too, to be seen whether absolute free trade in dynamite may not lead to the formation of a dynamite "ring"—a matter which would not be difficult. Still, there can be no question that, on the whole, the disappearance of the monopoly will be for the benefit of all parties.—London Leader.

## FOUGHT DEATH SUCCESSFULLY.

### Paine's Celery Compound Saves a Little Girl's Life.

Users of Paine's Celery Compound never suffer disappointment.

The great medicine at all times and under all circumstances brings to all sufferers relief and a permanent cure.

Mr. Maxime Martel, 189 Mitcheson Street, Montreal, tells what Paine's Celery Compound accomplished for his little daughter, whose case was considered an incurable one; he says:

"My daughter, now eight years old, was afflicted with terrible scrofula for nearly six years, and we thought her case an incurable one. We had several physicians to attend her, and she took medicines of all kinds, but she got worse instead of better. Having had our attention drawn to the fact that Paine's Celery Compound wrought cures after other medicines failed, we procured a supply, and after a fair use of the medicine we can report that the disease is overcome, and we trust has disappeared forever. Our little girl is now bright, strong and healthy, sleeps and eats well, and her blood is now as pure as it can possibly be. I have great pleasure in recommending Paine's Celery Compound as a cure for scrofula and blood diseases; it is the best medicine in the world."

#### A Privileged Dog.

A charming little story is told of Queen Victoria's first visit to Crathie church, near Balmoral. On that occasion a fine dog that belonged to the clergyman followed his master up the pulpit steps and lay against the door during the entire service. Although the dog made not the slightest disturbance, Sir George Grey, who was then in attendance on her majesty, regarded the animal's presence as somewhat disrespectful and suggested to the clergy that it had better be dispensed with in future.

The next Sunday, therefore, the dog was denied his usual privilege of church-going and remained sorrowfully at home.

A day or two later the clergyman was honoured by an invitation to dine with the royal family. To his surprise Queen Victoria presently inquired for his dog, saying she had noticed he was not at church on Sunday.

"I kept my dog at home last Sunday, your majesty," replied the clergyman, "as Sir George Grey thought his presence in church would annoy you."

"Oh, no," said the queen heartily, "let him come as usual. I only wish everybody behaved at church as well as your noble dog," added her majesty, with a decided spice of mischief in her tone.—Youth's Companion.

#### GAINED 50 POUNDS.

"I have used Burdock Blood Bitters for Dyspepsia and sick headache. Before I started taking it I was thin and run down in health. Two bottles have completely cured me and since then I have gained about fifty pounds in weight." Mrs. Ellen Vaughan, Oulton Station, Ont.

#### The Horse And The Motor.

For certain purposes the motor car is never likely to displace the horse. On good roads the latter will, no doubt, be at a disadvantage, but in cross-country roads the motor will have no chance. If a motor car gets bogged, the effect of setting the engine at work is simply to the wheels bury themselves more deeply, and the only chance of getting the vehicle out of its own efforts is to take a line from the car to some anchorage and wind up. Failing facilities for this, resource must be had to the despised horse, who, at a pinch, can "yank a street-car out of a coal cellar." This limitation to the powers of the motor-car has been clearly apparent in some of the many excellent tests which were made under the auspices of the Liverpool Self Propelled Traffic Association. In view of the enormous amount of heavy haulage which has to be accomplished in South Lancashire, it is natural that it is to this department of motor-car work that the Liverpool trials have been mainly directed. The tests about to be made in connection with the Richmond Show may give us equally valuable hints with respect to the lighter class of vehicle, for which there is likely in the end to be a very large demand.—(British Engineering.

## Doctors said Incurable

But the Notary, Mr. Lemire, was cured of Kidney Disease in two months by Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

It is only when thoroughly convinced of the superior merit of a remedy that public men will give their sanction.

Mr. E. H. Lemire, Notary Public, 1692 Notre Dame Street, Montreal, tells of his remarkable recovery from a severe attack of kidney disease. When doctors had failed, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills saved his life. He writes: "I give this statement, first because it is only just that the merit of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills should be made known, and again in order that others may profit by my experience. For years I suffered with kidney disease, which doctors pronounced incurable. Thanks to Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, which I have used for two months, I am completely cured. They helped me from the first, and the cure is now perfect."

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills act directly on the kidneys, and through their combined influence on the kidneys and liver, cure the most complicated diseases of these delicate organs. One pill a dose. 25 cents a box at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

#### A Case of Pajamas.

In a certain Kentucky district in which a company of volunteers are enlisted for the recent war with Spain military genius was somewhat intimately associated with whiskey drinking. In this neighbourhood Lincoln's reply to the female society that objected formally to Grant because he was said to drink is still quoted with great gusto. "And, sah," Colonel Harding of Lexington still says triumphantly, "dogged if ole Lincoln didn't write back to know what brand Grant drank, as he would like to send a jug of it to some other generals, sah." So it happened that Captain Clay, in command of the new Company, frequently crooked his elbow in the good old Kentucky fashion. While the company was encamped at Greenville a few weeks ago some charitable ladies of Philadelphia, organized for Red Cross work, forwarded the company a box of pajamas for the sick soldiers. Not hearing from them, in time the secretary telegraphed the captain of the company, "We are anxious to know if you got the pajamas last week." This telegram was brought to Captain Clay as he was cooling his brain with wet towels after a hard engagement with the officers of a Georgia company on the night before. Great was his indignation, and he hastily dispatched his orderly to the telegraph office with his reply: "There is not a word of truth in the story. Must have been started by political enemies. I acknowledge I am not a total abstainer, but I did not have the pajamas last week or any other time."—Lippincott's.

#### The Three Essentials.

Grandpa Jackson—Yes, child; if a man's only got de three "R's" he kin get through dis world just as safe an' happy as if he'd went through Harvard.

Jackson, Jr.—An. what am de three "R's", gran'pa?

Grandpa Jackson—Why, razors, rabbits' foot and rum, child. Dem's de great "4-11-44" gig of human policy de world over.

#### Cook's Cotton Root Compound

Is successfully used monthly by over 10,000 Ladies. Safe, effective. Ladies ask your druggist for Cook's Cotton Root Compound. Take no other, as all mixtures, pills and imitations are dangerous. Price, No. 1, \$1 per box; No. 2, 10 degrees stronger, \$2 per box. No. 1 or 2, mailed on receipt of price and two 8-cent stamps. The Cook Company, Windsor, Ont.

No. 1 and No. 2 sold in Woodstock by Garden Bros. Druggists.

#### LIVERY AND HACK STABLE,

H. E. & Jas. W. Gallagher, Props

Outfits for commercial travellers. Coaches in atendance at arrival of trains. All kinds of Livery Teams to let at Reasonable Rates.

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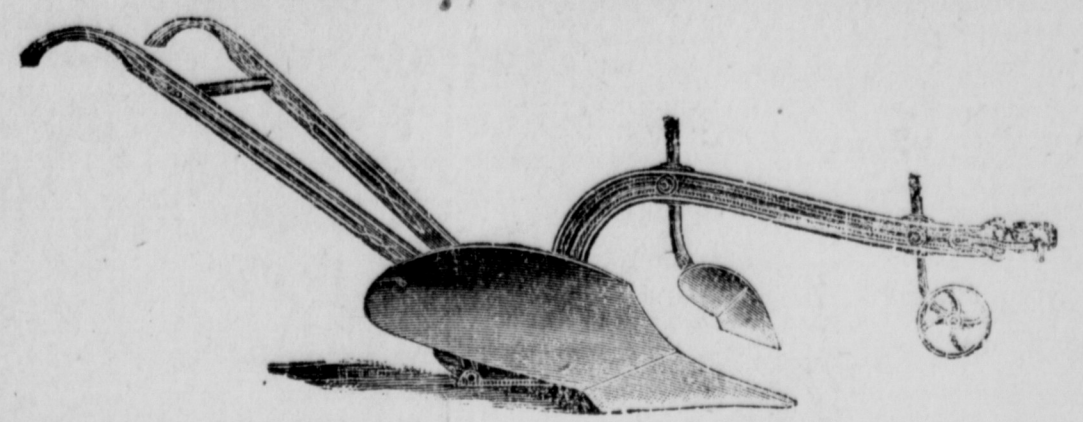
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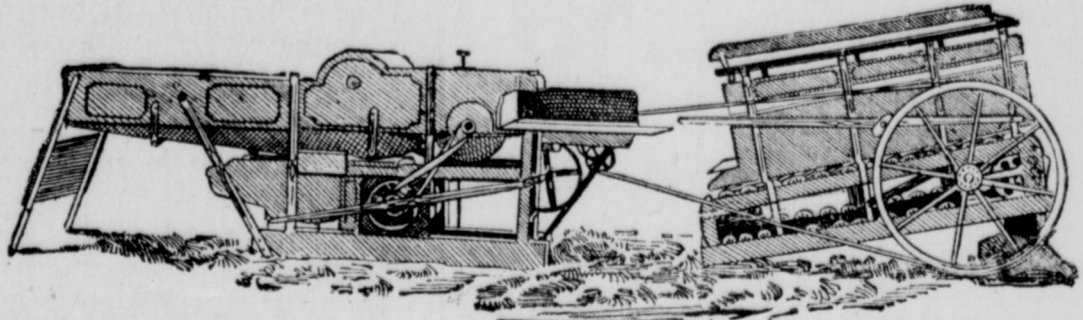
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## SYRACUSE & CONNELL BROS., LTD. STEEL PLOWS.



All admit it is the best all round plow made in this or any other country. If you want a first class rake, Ithaca or Tiger, we have them. Also mowing Macnines 5 ft and 6 ft cut. Pulpers with roller bearings. Furnaces and Stoves of our own make, of the best material. Our Tornado Threshing Machine admitted the BEST.



### TORNADO.

We have a good many unsolicited letters like this one from Mr. Grant

CENTRAL SOUTHAMPTON, York Co., 17th Dec. 1898.

MESSRS. CONNELL BROS., WOODSTOCK, N. B.  
DEAR SIRS,—As we are about through with this season's thrashing and as I am aware you feel interested in the machinery you manufacture, no doubt it will be pleasing to you to hear good reports of same. The TORNADO Thrashing Machine manufactured by you that we bought in August last has proved to be the best thrashing machine that ever was in this section of the country. That is the unanimous verdict of every man the machine has done work for. She has thrashed for thirty men in this section, and men that never were satisfied before were more than pleased with the work that the machine did; they were satisfied they got all their grain and well cleaned, even the women were pleased because they did not have a crew of men around several days thrashing a small quantity of grain. The machine has thrashed this season about ten thousand bushels of all kinds of grain and I am happy to inform you that there was not one thing broken about the machine, not as much as a tooth. She has thrashed over a bushel a minute, and with a suitable team, she will thrash 300 to 400 bushels a day. It is gratifying to me to congratulate you for perfecting and manufacturing the best two horse power thrashing machine in the Dominion of Canada, and maybe in the world.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in advance, I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed)

H. C. GRANT.

## CONNELL BROS., LTD. Woodstock, N. B.

## Not made in Huge Lots!

In Haste, Slighted in Workmanship, Painting and Upholstering.

## This is not the way We make our Waggon.

Each Carriage is carefully made by skilled workmen, out of the best material, painted and trimmed in the best manner, and will outlast three factory carriages.

LOOK AT OUR CORNINGS AND ROAD WAGGONS.

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G. W. PARKER, Gen. Agent.

The more numerous the gifts recieved from God, the greater the account we must render to Him.—St. Gregory the Great.

It is true that God promises forgiveness if we repent, but what assurance have we of obtaining it to-morrow?—Ven L. de Blois.

It is God Who gives thee thy mirror of imagination, and if thou keep it clean it will give thee back no shadow but the truth. Never a cry of love went forth from human heart but it found some heavenly chord to fold it in.

Subscr.be for THE DISPATCH.