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It Will Not Pay,

Niagara Falls, Ont., Feb. 23-The action of the Windsor town council in refusing to allow the contractors to employ aliens on public works has been discussed freely here, and the outcome probably will be a similar by-law by the Niagara Falls town conneil. All along the Niagara frontier there is a keen feeling of a retaliatory measure. Last year crowds of laborers, including Italians and Poles, came over from Niagara Falls New York, and found employment on the sewers. Unless such a by-law as mentioned is passed this will be the case again this season, and matters will be even worse than last year, as only about one-third of the sewer excavations are completed and the job has to be finished this season. .

Alpena, Mich., Feb. 25 .- The interests of Alpena and almost all prominent east shore towns in Michigan are at stake in the matter of the lumber schedule, and the matter begins to have a serious aspect. Mr. W. H. Churchill, of Alpena, chairman of the committee that has just returned from Washington, does not give very encouraging report of what they accomplished with the Ways and Means Committee at the Capitol. This tariff means much to Alpena. Six of the largest saw mills, employing many hundreds of men, are now dependant entirely on Canadian logs. Two large lake tugs are employed steadily during the summer in rafting timber acrosss the lake.

The Axe Has Fallen.

Moncton, Feb. 23:- The axe has fallen in the I. C. R. shops. About fifty grits clamoring for jobs have been taken in since the change of government, and about sixty-five men employed in the different departments received notice that their services would not be required after March 9th. About every man known to be a concervative in his leanings has been discharged, including some members of the association of car workers, notwithstancing Mr. Blair's pledge to the dominion executive at Ottawa. Among those fired was one man who entered the service as a boy and has been steadily employed for twenty-four years. The discharge is generally condemned.

Women May See Fight. CARSON, Nev., February 24.-The women of Nevada and elsewhere who have for some weeks been clamoring for permission to see the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight are at last to have their desire granted. Dan Stuart yesterday, through his representative, made the following statement: "I will admit women to the fight simply because some of the most prominent men in the State have indicated a desire to bring their wives. I am not making this new move for the money there is in it, but as a matter of accommodation to the people mentioned. If women desire to see the fight I have nothing to say. They are the best judges of what they should and should not see."

A family named Woodward, consisting of a mother and nine children, were driving in a wagon near Sherman Heights this afternoon As the wagon was crossing a railway track it was struck by a train and the mother and six children were killed instantly.

A PITIABLE PEOPLE.

French Laborers Spend Nearly All Their Wages For Alcohol.

A good deal of superficial claptrap is repeated year after year by writers about the remarkable sobriety of the Latin races generally and of the French people in particular. The Italians certainly seem to be as abstemious as they are hard working, but as for the French they are declared by their own mos: eminent medical authorities to be undergoing a rapid process of degeneration, brought on by the reckless consumption of brain paralyzing, blood poisoning liquors.

Dr. Brunon, the well known director of the medical school at Rouen, and a student of his, M. Tourdot, have just published the results of their studies on the subject, and these are eminently calculated to alarm French patriots. The latter gentleman dressed himself up as a waiter and obtained a place in a tavern in Rouen frequented by the lowest class of workmen, many of whom sleep there for a penny a night.

The guests of this and similar places were the principal objects of M. Tourdot's investigations, and he says that these pitiable people, who earn about fourpence an hour, came regularly, drank their hour's wages in a few minutes, went back to earn more by the most laborious work, and then took to drinking the proceeds of it in like manner till day wore on into night and consciousness was dimmed to intoxication. Sometimes he saw 150 glasses of the most pernicious alcohol served out in

the short space of ten minutes. Dr. Brunon bitterly complains of the enormous number of little taverns of this type and mentions one street in Rouen containing 150 houses, of which 75 are licensed to sell poisonous beverages. - Chicago Chronicle.

THE ADDER'S STING.

Solomon Spoke Truth When He Admon ished Against Wine.

Solomon was a wise man and wrote a great many wise thoughts, but he never wrote a clearer or more forcible truth than is found in the book of Proverbs xx, 1, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." And yet, in the light of this wisdom, we see much of foolishness and deception.

I admit that there is a period in the drink habit when conviviality seems to hold sway, when companionship is sought, and the individual is praised for his generosity and independence of restraint. He is regarded as a man in whose veins there is no puritanic blood, one who believes in having a good time But Solomon wrote another thing about strong drink that I would have you ponder-viz, "At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder;" hence the admonition, "Look not upon

the wine when it is red." Persons are often deceived into believing that they can drink or let it alone. There is a time when this may be true; but, consenting to drink and not let it alone, there comes a time when a man can no more let it alone than he can resist the current of a mighty river-a time when the endearments of home, the entreaty of loved ones, the attractions of wealth and honor, are powerless to resist the progress of a vitiated appetite or turn him back from the untold horrors of a drunkard's life, a drunkard's death and a drunkard's hopeless eternity.-Rev. R. E. Smith, D. D.

DRINKS COME HIGH.

London's Expenditure For Alcoholic Liquors This Year Is About \$100,000,000.

The most recent temperance statistics published in London show that the annual consumption of liquor in the capital is largely on the increase. It is estimated that the sum of £20,000,000, or \$100,000,000, will be spent this year in acoholic drinks by the dwellers in the metropolis. This sum, it is computed, would nearly eight times pay for the school board maintenance, added to the cost of necessary new school buildings.

The appropriations for the relief of the poor in London are about \$13,000,-000, which is only one-eighth of the total drink bill. The London debt of about \$96,000,000 could be paid in one year by the amount spent on liquor and a balance of nearly \$4,000,000 left over.

When it is taken into consideration that liquor is much cheaper in London than here, the enormous quantity consumed is largely in excess of what it at first appears to be.

Setting a Good Example.

Total abstinence from intoxicating liquors is always within the limit of safety. "Temperance," as it is commonly understood in this country and almost invariably in others, is not in every instance within that limit. It is an interesting and a significant fact that Bishop Temple, the recently appointed primate of the Church of England, is an outspoken total abstinence man. Perhaps the most telling part of an address delivered in London recently, in which he again avowed his total abstinence principles, was the passage wherein he said that when he looked into the condition of the men who live by labor he felt that the best thing he could do for them was to set them an example of absolute abstinence from the use of everything that intoxicates. - Exchange.

The Rum Traffic. Sixty million dollars are annually expended in this country for the apprehension and punishment of criminals, made so by the liquor traffic, and 40,-000 criminals are supported in the prison houses of the country at the public expense. Add to this all other expenses of government caused by the liquor traffic, such as the large amounts necessary to provide for the insane and the pauper classes that have been made such by intemperance, and you will discover that the amount annually expended by government in consequence of this traffic is enormous. - Exchange.

TRAPPING CROWS.

It Is Not an Easy Matter to Net the Wily

Crows are trapped and sold to sportsmen for shooting matches, usually bringing \$10 per 100, but, like other things, when scarce they bring more.

It is no simple matter to trap crows. for the crow is a wily bird, and to catch him in a net set for that purpose requires skill, and patience as well, but the hunger of the crow is always the trapper's greatest aid. One man alone would make but little headway catching crows and would probably sit all day in his little bough house ready to spring his net, but the crows would give his bait a wide berth because they would

know that he was there. After placing the carcass of some animal on a field the net is set close to it by bending poles of saplings, on which the net is hung flat to the ground, where they are held down by triggerlike pegs, and a line run 50 yards or more to a house built of boughs, where the trapper is secreted.

Another carcass is usually laid some hundreds of yards distant on the same or another field, where there is no net set. The trappers, usually two in number, go into the bough house together before daylight, and when the crows begin to assemble on the fields one of them goes out and walks away. The crows, seeing him leave, grow a little bolder and approach the bait in ones and twos, but stop only long enough to get a beakful of the flesh and fly off again. The carcass where there is no net set is of course the best patronized, but the trapper on the outside makes it his business to walk near enough to that to keep the crows from settling on it in numbers and thus satisfying their hunger without going to the one where the net is. After awhile their hunger gets the better of their judgment or their fear, and they gather on the carcass where the net is. This is the opportunity of the man in the bough house, who, with a vigorous pull on the line, springs the net over them. Quick work must be done then by the trappers, who rush up to the net, to keep the trapped crows from crawling out at the ends and the front, where it is not staked fast to the ground. With their hands covered with stout buckskin gloves, to keep the crows from biting and scratching them, the captured birds are put in bags ready to be carried off the field. From 40 to 60 are frequently caught at one pull, but it is a rare thing to get more than two springs of the net in one day. -Philadelphia Record.

A STORY OF LONGFELLOW.

Mrs. Fields Tells an Interesting Anecdote of the Author. Speaking of Longfellow, in her vol-

ume of literary reminiscences, Mrs.

Jane J. Fields says: "His kindness and love of humor car ried him through many a tedious interruption. He generously overlooked the fact of the subterfuges to which men and women resorted in order to get an interview, and, to help them out, made as much of their excuses as possible. Speaking one day of the persons who came to see him at Nahant, he said: 'One man, a perfect stranger, came with an omnibus full of ladies. He descended, introduced himself; then, returning to the omnibus, took out all the ladies, one, two, three, four and five, with a little girl, and brought them in. I entertained them to the best of my ability, and they staid an hour. They had scarcely gone when a forlorn woman in black came up to me on the piazza and asked for a dipper of water. "Certainly," I replied, and went to fetch her a glass. When I brought it, she said: "There is another woman just by the fence who is tired and thirsty. I will carry this to her." But she struck her head as she passed through the window and spilled the water on the piazza. "Oh, what have I done!" she said. "If I had a floor cloth, I would wipe it up." "Oh, no matter about the water," I said, "if you have not hurt yourself." Then I went and brought more water for them both and sent them on their way refreshed and rejoicing.'

"It would be both an endless and unprofitable task to recall more of the curious experiences which popularity brought down upon him. There is a passage among Mr. Fields' notes, however, in which he describes an incident during Longfellow's last visit to England which should not be overlooked. Upon his arrival the queen sent a graceful message and invited him to Windsor castle, where she received him with all the honors, but he told me no foreign tribute touched him deeper than the words of an English hod carrier who came up to the carriage door at Harrow and asked permission to take the hand of the man who had written the 'Voices of the Night.' "

The End of Books.

What brings about the end of books? Is it fire, water, worms? As every ship launched is bound to be wrecked, every theater to be burned, the finis of the book is its reduction to ashes. What became of the Alexandrian library? Did the Saracens burn it in 640? There is this question asked: Was there any library at Alexandria containing 700,000 books? Gibbon inclines to the opinion that there was no such library. Canon Taylor insists that if there had been a library it was burned in the time of Julius Cæsar. Tradition seems to indicate, however, that there was a library in the Serapeum, by no means a large collection, but whether destroyed by Theophilus or Theodosius is not known. It looks as if the charge brought against the Arabs rested on no foundation. Recent explorations of Alexandria, 1895-6, show no traces of the Serapeum. The seaport of Egypt was built on a damp foundation, and, granting that there was a library, if not destroyed by fire, then the papyri might have suffered from decay due to water. Books of today taken to India, to the southern states and to the West Indies perish through mildew. - New York Times.

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