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Mr. John L. Carter, of Bridgetown, N.S., in the following letter, tells how it saved his life: "I had suffered with dysentery for two weeks and could get nothing to cure me. I then tried Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry, and I feel that it saved my life. It restored me to health when everything else failed. I consider it a wonderful remedy that should have a place in every home."

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our regular correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 26, 1900.—

The feeling is growing here that the Chinese situation has been terribly underestimated by the powers and that the world is on the brink of a war which will be as frightful as any in modern times. Whether it was started by Russia for her own ends or whether it is the long brooding revolt of the Chinese against foreign aggression, is of little consequence now. As things are, the conditions there are a menace to the world and certainly involve the loss of hundreds of foreign lives, the wiping out of immensely valuable foreign trade and the destruction of most of the railways, telegraph lines and other material evidences of modern civilization in China. The belief here is that the rebellion is not a religious one in any strict sense of the word. The Chinese are against the Christians because they are foreigners and not against the foreigners because they are Christians. They are against the native Christians, not on account of their change of religion but because this is held to be evidence that they have allied themselves with the foreigners and are therefore traitors to their own country. A Chinaman is said to have little objection to Christianity in the abstract, as it was laid down by its founder nineteen centuries ago, but he has decided objection to Christians who run railways over the graves of his ancestors, who destroy his crops and who carelessly alter the "spirit influences" which he believes flow from nearly every thing that enters into his life. And as we cannot tell one Chinaman from another, so he cannot tell one foreigner from another and when he starts to kill, does not restrict himself to those whom he knows have injured him. The troubles were undoubtedly provoked by the Germans and Belgians. Had these conducted themselves as well as the British and Americans, the trouble might have been avoided.

The National Continental Union League met in New York last week and elected officers for the coming year. The league was formed about seven years ago to consummate the political union of Canada and the United States. For this purpose, it proposes to organize branches in each State of the United States and in each province of Canada. The league does not appear to have accomplished much during the seven years of its existence. So far as can be observed from surface indications, there are not as many Canadians in favor of annexation now as there were when the National Continental Union League was organized, and there is certainly no clearly defined annexation sentiment in the United States. One of the few blunders made by a great American statesman, now gone to his rest, was to exploit this matter in a Fourth of July speech. It fell flat and the subject has not since been seriously considered. The Canadians sometimes introduce it into their politics, but for all practical purposes it is of no more moment at present than is any dead and gone issue.

At a recent session of the Industrial Commission, F. H. Hitchcock, chief of the section of foreign markets of the Department of Agriculture, made a plea for a law requiring a strict inspection of all dairy products destined for export, on the lines of the Canadian law on the subject. There had been, he said, a striking decline in the United States exports of butter and

cheese, the chief cause being the exportation of inferior articles. Australia was developing a great export trade in butter, following the lines of Danish and Canadian inspection methods, guaranteeing a high grade to the purchaser. The Baltic provinces of Russia were doing much the same thing, while the United States was losing its trade because of its laxity. Mr. Hitchcock recommended a system of government inspection and said it would be indorsed by all of the dairy associations if carried on in the manner of the present meat inspection.

Lord Pauncefoot, the British Ambassador is conferring with Postmaster General Smith, in regard to increasing the postal facilities between this country and England. It is understood that the Ambassador is endeavoring to have this country enter into a parcels post treaty with England. This matter frequently has been considered, but the United States always has declined to enter into such an arrangement. The last refusal was made within the past few months.

The following pensions have been issued to Canadians; Original—James P. Phelan, Hamilton, Ontario; \$6 a month; James B. Ellement, Notre Dame des Anges, Quebec, \$10. Original Widows &c.—Cornwall, \$8. Jane Brown, Beachville, Oxford, Ontario, \$8. Additional.—Thomas Flinton, East London, Ontario, \$8.

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FACTS ABOUT THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

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Two-thirds of the ship building of the world is done by the British.

The British have 689 ships of war. They could fire off 7,530 guns at once.

We can travel entirely around the world without leaving the British Empire. The British Empire if cut into a strip a mile wide, would reach round the world 450 times.

Three-fourths of all the letters which are posted in the world are written in English and sent to persons who speak English.

The population of the British Empire is 385,794,972.

The area of the British Empire is 11,746,795 square miles.

There are within the Empire 33 persons to each square mile.

As much as 2,500 millions sterling have been lent to other nations by the British.

No one of the ancient Empires, like that of Persia, Greece or Rome, were equal in size or wealth to the British Empire of to-day.



Supposing the Ax Had Fallen!

Some years ago an inquisitive medical student, while examining the gullotine in a big waxworks exhibition in London, took it into his head that the sort of yoke which fits down on the shoulders of the criminal to hold him in his place would not be sufficient to confine a person who struggled.

His curiosity on that point led him to watch till the place was empty, when he actually put himself in, letting down the yoke. He soon found, however, that he was quite unable to lift it, and it once flashed into his mind that the sharp ax suspended over his neck might not be firmly fixed, or it would fall, as it should, with a touch.

He was afraid to struggle lest the shaking should bring it down and at once deposit his head in the basket of sawdust below him, into which his eyes were of necessity steadily looking.

Having staid some time in this plight, he was overjoyed to hear the approach of a visitor, whom he implored to release him. It was in vain.

"I'm thinking," said the gentleman, a Scottish visitor to the metropolis, to his wife, "that he must be fixed to show how the thing acts, and I think we'd better not interfere."

So the luckless student was left till one of the attendants came in and ended fast the ax before releasing him from his predicament. The ax was afterward removed and laid by the side of the structure to prevent future accidents.

A Convincing Answer.

There are many people who do not care for libraries who pride themselves on having "only the books they read" about them, but the answer made by a distinguished scholar to one of those persons very well illustrates how valuable is this idea as to what a library should be. The scholar was connected with an institution of learning which had been greatly helped by a liberal man of the neighborhood, but the liberal man was not much of a sympathizer with the idea of increasing the library. When appealed to in the matter, he replied:

"More books? Dear me, it seems to me you've got more than you can read now. Have you read all you have already?"

"No," returned the scholar, "and I never expect to read them all."

"Then why do you want more?"

"Let me ask you," said the scholar, "did you ever read the dictionary through?"

"Certainly not," was the reply.

"Well, sir," said the scholar, "a library is my dictionary."

The answer was convincing, and the merchant provided the professor with the funds he wished for.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

It Can't Be Done Now.

"An increase of salary!" exclaimed the pompous manager of a small omnibus company to a clerk who had just made that request. "I am afraid, sir, that you are too extravagant!"

He toyed with his heavy watch chain and looked severely at the young man, who returned his stare boldly. It was the set phrase on such occasions, and the applicant had heard it all before. He meant to have that rise or—go somewhere else.

"Excuse me, sir," he replied respectfully. "I haven't any chance to be extravagant on what I earn."

"Young man," continued the pompous gentleman, "I have risen from the monkey board. How? By being careful. When I was young I made money by saving 'bus fares."

"Ah, that was in the old days," said the young man, with a knowing wink.

"But with the bell punches and the present system of inspection, you would find you couldn't save sixpence without being collared, however careful you were."

The manager nearly fainted, and the young man had to seek other employment.—London Standard.

Getting Rope Sense.

A peculiarity about roping horses or steers with a lasso is that after getting a hard fall a few times they quickly get "rope sense." I have often seen them, in a corral, stand stock still when the rope falls across their backs—even when, as a matter of fact, they are not caught. If any reader has ever encountered a clothesline while running a fall speed in the dark, the line stretched at about the level of the throat, he will notice that he doesn't run across that lawn any more after nightfall. He's got "rope sense," in fact.—Wide World Magazine.

Why She Enjoyed It.

On Monday, as a certain Scottish minister was returning homewards, he was accosted by an old woman, who said:

"Oh, sir, well do I like the day when you preach."

The minister was aware that he was not very popular and answered:

"My good woman, I am glad to hear it. There are too few like you. And why do you like it when I preach?"

"Oh, sir," she replied, "when you preach I always get a good seat!"—Scottish Nights.

Queer Lot.

Stranger—I have heard that you have a good many queer people in this town.

Citizen—As odd a lot as you'd find in a year's travel. They're a queer set, the whole of 'em, outside my family. And my wife is almost as bad as the others. But then, you know, she was originally of my family.—Boston Transcript.

A peculiar clock of the time of Charles I was the lantern, or birdcage style, which hung from the walls high up, with its works exposed.

Submarine volcanoes are constantly being discovered, and are at times, owing to their sudden appearance, a great danger to navigation.

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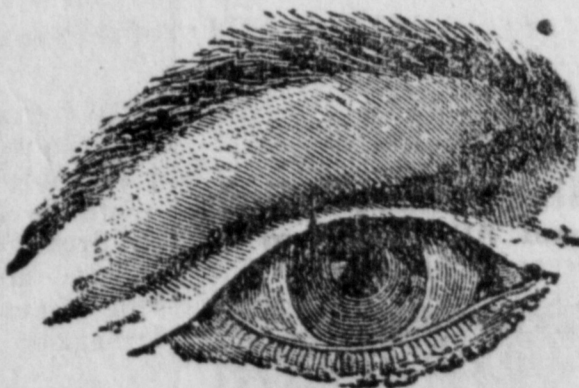
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