

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1897.

## AGAINST SUNDAY CARS

REV. DR. POLLOCK WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM ABOLISHED.

On the Other Hand Many Prominent Citizens Wish to See Them in Operation—A Little Tilt Between Dr. Pollock and Mr. Lithgow—How he got his new Watch.

HALIFAX, Feb. 25.—Rev. Dr. Pollock, principal of the presbyterian college in this city, is one of the most staid, substantial and orthodox ministers of the church to which he belongs. He seldom appears as a contributor to the secular press, but the past week has brought the exception, for the learned principal has written a series of articles in opposition to the running of the street cars on Sunday. This is a live subject just now, for the Sabbath observance society are contemplating actions at law to harass the tramway company, or possibly to stop the cars on Sunday. J. R. Lithgow is a champion of the secularization Sunday of more than a quarter of a century's experience in this controversy. He is just the opposite of Dr. Pollock in that he dearly loves a chance to write a letter to the paper, or at least his name very frequently appears. He ventured to take exception to something Dr. Pollock said and the doctor tried to get even with J. R. L. by saying something disparagingly because Mr. Lithgow had, as he thought purchased McDougall's distillery. Now comes the point of the controversy so far as this phase of it is concerned. J. R. L. hits back by saying that Dr. Pollock has spoken of the product of "whiskey distilleries as honeydew," and he asked the doctor whether, if it was not improper to take a drink occasionally it was a crime to manufacture whiskey. J. R. L. went on to say that the doctor of divinity knew some good people in Halifax who took a drop, and the reader with half an eye could see that he meant Dr. Pollock himself was not a total abstainer. J. R. L. scored one on this point, but at the same time there is no gainsaying the fact that Dr. Pollock is a trenchant writer and that it will take a pretty good pen to meet his arguments.

The Sabbath observance people, the other day, received a letter from the tramway company informing them that they intended to run the cars every day in the week, practically defying them to do their worst.

A proprietor of a hotel near the centre of the city is now resplendent in a rather cheap but showy watch and chain. This ornamentation came to him not through the medium of a watchmaker's establishment, but by virtue of the city police court. A well-meaning mechanic living not far from the hotel took up his lodgings there. Three weeks passed without the cash equivalent for the food and shelter supplied and mine host became alarmed that his guest was about to leave the city with accounts still unsquared. Accordingly he hid himself to the police court and obtained a capias. This was served but no cash being available the honest mechanic gave up his watch and chain to the obdurate creditor as security for the debt. So the watch chain shines on the breast of the hotel man rather than on that of the mechanic, and the complement of the vacuum in the workman's pocket is represented by the well-filled pocket of the man, yclept "mine host." The haste with which some people rush to the courts for such instruments as a capias confirms the oft-expressed opinion that this is a hard world and should give warning to all to take no chances but to keep out of the possible clutches of those who when their time comes seem to show but little mercy.

### FACTS ABOUT TOBACCO.

Some of the things that are Said About Nicotine by Scientists.

Tobacco is classified in medical books among the depresso-motors, a term used to describe certain drugs which by reducing the activity of the nervous system tend to lower the general tone of the body. Its peculiar properties are due entirely to the well-known substance, nicotine, which is present in a degree varying according to the form in which the plant is used.

Nicotine, when pure, is a colorless, transparent liquid of a strong, tobacco-like odor and persistent burning taste. It is freely soluble in water, and rapidly disappears on exposure to the air.

This active principle of tobacco is so powerful that the small dose of one thirty-

second of a grain caused an intense burning in the throat, which was followed by giddiness, nausea, extreme muscular weakness, laborious respiration, and with icy extremities, partial loss of consciousness, a rapid, feeble pulse, and other indications of impending collapse.

In large amounts nicotine acts with lightning like rapidity. In a case of suicide, in which the amount taken could not be ascertained, the man dropped instantly to the floor, gave a long drawn sigh and was dead in three minutes.

When nicotine is added to freshly drawn blood the blood takes on a peculiar, dark hue, and upon examination with the microscope the minute vital particles in the blood are found to be rapidly breaking up and dying.

It is doubtful just how nearly this represents the inward condition of tobacco-users since during life the poison which gains entrance to the body is constantly being eliminated by the various organs in the performance of their offices. It is certain, however, that abuse of tobacco will eventually lead to deterioration of the blood. And it is upon this influence of nicotine upon the circulation, as well as upon its effect upon the nervous system, that advocates of total abstinence from the use of tobacco correctly base their arguments.

One cannot easily convince of his error a person who finds gentle solace to his nerves from an after-dinner cigar; but the almost continual employment of tobacco in some form, and especially the inhalation of the fumes from a cigarette, which has its own distinct and pernicious effect, is strongly to be discouraged.

The example of men who have been tobacco users for a lifetime with impunity proves nothing save that there are many men with constitutions strong enough to withstand a test which is entirely unnecessary.

### SOME FAMOUS BELLS.

Prophectic Bell of Villala—Japanese Little Giant—Bell of the Kremlin

In this country bells are and always have been ultimately associated with national as well as individual joy and sorrow. When a great victory is won the bells crash forth the glad tidings from a thousand steeples, while they perform a like office, though of course in a different key, in the case of a national disaster. Bells in England, however, have not become, like some in other countries, hoary with ages of superstition.

But Spain has a bell that is its prophet. It is the soothsayer, oracle, and guide. This bell, the famous Villala, has hung for centuries in the historic castle, keeping watch over the nation.

It is the most celebrated bell in Europe. Its fame rests not so much upon its notes, though these are high-pitched, soft, and clear; nor upon its size, for there are other bells in Spain much larger, but upon its personality.

The Villala is a Spanish bell that for years has foretold any impending trouble to the nation. When the father of little Alphonso died the Villala began tolling in the night, and tolled until morning light. In the ten years' Cuban war the bells struck awful tones on the nights of defeat. And when great fires have touched the castle, and sickness or insurrection threatened the throne, the Villala has tolled again, and only a fortnight ago. It was one short, quick stroke. Only a few heard it but they ran to tell the direful tidings. Did it mean more disaster to Cuba? Was the war to drain the royal vaults beyond penny to debt? The Villala would not tell, but it sent out its warning note.

Russia has a coronation bell, the largest in the world, and weighing 250,000 pounds.

It hangs in the Kremlin, and is the Emperor's bell, being rung only in honor of him. At the coronation it pealed forth as the Emperor entered the church, and its voice announced the conclusion of the ceremony to the whole of Russia. The coronation bell is rung by a bell-ringer blessed by the Emperor as the head of the Church. The bell-ringer does no other work, and is always on duty to tell of important events in the imperial family.

He is pensioned, and is ever polishing up the bell in case of need. He rings the bell when his Majesty goes to church, and in case of the death of a Russian monarch. The Kremlin bell tolls constantly between the death and the time of the funeral.

As is well known, to Russia belongs the largest unringed bell in the world. The bell now occupies a building in the Kremlin.

FOUNTAIN SPRING—2 quart, in wood box, with 4 pipes (including vaginal irrigator) \$1.00 Postpaid to any part of Canada \$1.10. C. K. SMOYER, Druggist, St. John, N. B.

## ANNUAL SALE OF

## ...LADIES' WHITE UNDERWEAR

IN "LADIES' ROOM," SECOND FLOOR.

NEW GOODS are continually being added to the Stock, which enables us to SUIT ALL CUSTOMERS.

NIGHT GOWNS, 57c to \$4.25

CHEMISE, 40c to \$2.00

CORSET COVERS, 19c to \$1.75

SHIRTS, 35c to \$3.75

DRAWERS, 37c to \$1.50

All well made, good materials, generous sizes, correct values.

In connection with this sale we are offering a large variety of CHILDREN'S DRESSES and APRONS, all new goods. COLORED CAMBRIC DRESSES for children of 6 months to 5 years of age, some plain, others trimmed with braid, lace or embroidery—35c. to \$1.25.

PINK CHAMBRAY DRESSES, handsomely trimmed with embroidery, \$1.85.

COLORED CAMBRIC DRESSES, with white pointed and sailor collars, 95c. and \$1.

WHITE DRESSES, in lawn, cambric, and nainsook, trimmed embroidery, lace and ribbon, 65c. to \$3.10.

WHITE MUSLIN DRESSES, with colored embroidered figures, trimmed Valenciennes lace and ribbon, for ages 2 1-2 to 5 years—\$2.35 and \$2.45.

Also CHILDREN'S WHITE MUSLIN APRONS—40c. to \$1.20.

*Manchester Robertson & Allison, St. John*

It was cast two centuries ago, but was found too heavy to remove from the pit. The Russian monarchs, one after another tried to have it lifted, and dozens of lives were sacrificed in the shifting pit of sand. Finally late intervened. A raging fire broke out and heated the bell in its pit. A quantity of cold water flowed round it, and a great piece, the size of a door, was broken out. The Russian Czar immediately ordered it to be lifted on a pedestal and set within the Kremlin, where it is sometimes used as a temple. Its walls are 2 feet thick and it is 25 feet high.

The bells of Notre Dame in Paris are the largest bells of sweetness in the world. One of them weighs 35,000 pounds. The maker who cast it would never disclose the secret of its loud, sweet tone.

As a nation, the Japanese have the largest bells, but the crudest. So unskilful are they that many of them will not ring, and so they are obliterated from the lists of bells. The best bells made, even if cast correctly, have two small hammers. Or they are made to sound like tin, and the hammer does not strike roundly. One of these, the "Little Giant," has never been weighed. It is said to weigh comparatively little, being of some light Japanese metal; but it is thirty feet across. It is used to announce births or deaths in the royal family. Its clapper is a small, elongated affair that strikes the bell with a double sound, and the "Little Giant" is easily recognized when heard.

The bell of Notre Dame in Montreal is the largest bell in America, but not the sweetest. This attribute is claimed by the biggest bell of Trinity's chime in New York, which is surpassing in delicacy and penetrating in its pureness. It is cast in Eilat.

The countries of Turkey, Greece, Italy, and Egypt have not many famous bells. Bells are not in good repute there, from the fact that criminals wear them around the neck and lepers are strung with them. In the temples the high priests decorate their robes with small jangling bells, and this is another reason why bells cannot become common. In Turkey they are conspicuously unpopular; indeed, that country is the only one that positively forbids the ringing in the new year by means of bells.—London Daily Mail.

### OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH.

A Man Who Enjoys the Distinction of Being Swallowed by an Alligator.

The alligator, as is well known, swallows its prey whole and digests it at leisure like many others of the reptile family. It is to this which is given as a fact by the Rome Hustler, Georgia, that Edward Roland of that city owes his life.

In Roland's boyhood his parents had a winter home in the neighborhood of Sanford, Florida, which is near Dennis Creek, a locality which was then famous for its numerous alligators. When a little fellow to young distinctly to remember the circumstances, the boy was out with his father on the creek shore, and was left alone for a little while, playing with some pebbles.

Suddenly the father heard Edward scream and ran in his direction. He reached the spot just in time to see the little fellow disappearing down the gaping throat of a huge alligator. Mr. Roland had his gun in hand, and quickly taking aim at the saurian, fired. Fortunately the bullet struck the brute in the eye, penetrating the brain, and killed it instantly.

The feet of the boy were still protruding from the reptile's mouth. The father, not daring to hope that his son was alive, cut open the alligator, thinking to obtain the boy's remains for burial.

To Mr. Roland's delight, the body showed signs of life, and after several hours of hard work the boy was resuscitated. The only serious injury was to the ankles, which had been crushed by the reptile's teeth, doubtless when in the throes of death.

Since that time Roland has been crippled, but only to the extent of wearing steel braces on his ankles. He enjoys the unique distinction of having been almost swallowed by an alligator.

### GREAT ARMY OF THESPIANS.

100,000 Employed in the Theaters of the United States.

In the controversy in Congress over the adoption of a copyright law (a controversy which culminated in the passage of the Draper bill by both branches of Congress) the statement was made that there are 5,000 theaters and opera houses in the United States, representing a cost of from \$10,000 to \$1,000,000 each. These theaters employ 50,000 persons, exclusive of actors and actresses. Upward of 400 manuscript plays written or owned by citizens of the United States are played rightly. They give employment to from 5,000 to 6,000 actors. The cost of producing these manuscript plays ranges from \$2,000 to \$25,000 each, and the purpose of the new statute is to give judges of the United States Courts full jurisdiction over the matter and to make the penalty imposed in one circuit operative anywhere throughout the country for unauthorized performances.

The number of actors and actresses in the United States has increased far more rapidly than has the population for a number of years past. By the Federal census of 1870 there were, at that time, 2,058 actors and actresses. By the census of 1880 the number had grown to 4,812. In 1890 it was 8,815, and it is now clearly in excess of 10,000, though the line or demarcation between veritable actors and actresses and those connected with the variety profession, as it is sometimes called, is not very clear. About 60 per cent of the number of persons describing themselves as actors and actresses are directly connected with the performance of standard or manuscript plays, and the others are employed of variety theatres, singers, specialty artists, gymnasts, circus performers, skaters or comic vocalists. In the number of those who are connected indirectly with theatrical performances the stage hands are to be considered as quite a factor, for though it is popularly considered that the stage hands are supernumeraries, not to be recognized by any mention on the play bills, the fact is that they are, all of them, in the best theaters practical carpenters. It is very difficult to make an accurate and comprehensive statement of the number of those who are employed directly and indirectly in the theaters of the country. The actors and actresses, of course, are an easily ascertained quantity, but in addition to the stage hands, of whom an accurate estimate may be made, there are the supers, male and female, the theater orchestra players, the employees of the theatre box offices, the doorkeepers, janitors, advertising agents and assistants, the ushers, the gas men and their assistants, the property men, the scene painters and assistants, the chorus singers, male and female, and the managerial staff, made up of business managers, advance agents, stenographers, secretaries, dramatists' helpers, and scene shifters. It would probably be safe to say that the number of those who draw their livelihood from theaters and opera houses in the United States is nearer 100,000 than 50,000, and at the present ratio of increase it may be considerably more before the next national census.—New York Sun.

### HOW IT WORKED.

Some of the Funny Incidents that Occurred From the use of a Call Box.

There are moments in a man's life through which he would not willingly live twice. Such a moment came to the English member of parliament, of whose efforts to provide instructive entertainment for his guests, Chamber's Journal tells an amusing story.

It was in the early days of the London 'district messenger system,' when the convenient arrangement which had for some years flourished in the United States was taking root in England. The desirability of providing himself with such an addition to his comforts was recognized by the M. P., and he took steps to have a call-box placed in his house. Accordingly the workmen came and set to work.

The chosen representative of a body of the English people was in haste to have the business completed, for he was that day to entertain some friends at dinner, and desired greatly to show them his latest luxury. The foreman agreed to do what he could. He promised in any case to fit up the call-box that day, but he held out little hope of being able to connect it with the office.

The dinner hour came, and with it the guests, and in due time the member of parliament led his friends into the hall to see this latest scientific novelty. He carefully explained that he could today show them the working of this wonderful system as he could never do again, for the box was not yet connected with the central office. Then he explained the signals one by one, turning the pointer first to the word 'Messenger,' and pulling a small lever. A clockwork buzzing resulted.

'There,' said the triumphant M. P., 'that would bring me a messenger in five minutes if it were connected.' And now see.

He turned the pointer to 'Cab,' and a similar operation was repeated. Then 'Police' and 'Fire' in turn were signalled, to the unfeigned delight of the company.

'Most ingenious contrivance I ever saw,' said one.

'Lucky it's not connected,' remarked another.

Scarcely were the words spoken when there came a thundering knock at the hall door and a resounding peal at the bell. Before the door could be opened a loud clattering was heard without, and the genial face of the host grew grave. The gravity deepened to anxiety when the door was opened and a messenger and a hansom were disclosed to view, while a policeman stepped inside, anxious to know just where his services were required. This proved to be only the first instalment of the comforts resulting from the possession of a call-box.

Another minute, and the hurried passage of feet was again heard, and two more boys arrived bearing the extinguisher. Last, but not least, came the fire-engine, throbber and smoking as the horses galloped up to the door.

It is needless to say that the guests were delighted at this unexpected proof of the efficiency of the new invention, and were profuse in their thanks to their host, whom they left in a state of exhaustion after his efforts to explain matters in succession to messengers, cabman, police and firemen, all of whom seemed somewhat hard to convince.

### IT HOLDS THE KEY.

Insignificant Beginnings—But They Steal on one as a Thief in the Night, and Before one has time to Wonder what ails him he is in the Firm Grasp of Disease—South American Kidney Cure will Break the Bonds and Liberate, no matter how strong the Cords.

The thousands of cases that have been helped, and cured by the great South American Kidney Cure is the best recommendation of its curative qualities. The remedy is a specific for all kidney troubles. The formula is compounded on the very latest scientific discoveries in the medical world. There are thousands today who do truthfully say "I am living because I used South American Kidney Cure." It relieves in six hours.