

SHADES OF CITY LIFE.

SPARKLING PARAGRAPHS OF ORDINARY HAPPENINGS.

What is Taking Place in the City From Day to Day—The Ubiquitous Summer Girl and Her Triumphs—Laughable Incidents Told by Valdimar.

It is amusing to hear some of the remarks made by some men with regard to the tariff changes on tobacco duties. The inauguration of the smaller figs is causing much indignation among them and some of the expressions given vent to would make weighty reading—I don't think. "Oid rather pay the extra cent and git back the ould fig" said one old fellow on a South end wharf the other day. "Begorra," chimed in another, "Oim in favor uv the new bill, sure of kin get a drink an me fig uv chewing fer tin cents now." Others of course take different views and it matters little what shoemaker shop or other places of congenial congregation you may happen into of an evening, there before many half hours are spent this new question of minimized tobacco figs will be dragged up and tortured in a manner most excruciating.

A man lately returned from Boston called at a city newspaper office only a few days since, and desired that his recent divorce from his wife be given prominence through the medium of the press. He was about to pay for the notice, but when told there would be no charge walked away agreeably surprised. This is how it is done in the States; down here in St. John husbands and wives put up with a great deal from their sworn life-partners before the legal step is taken, but what revelations there would be if only a little more Americanism were shown in this particular line in our city. St. John is a small place compared with Boston and New York, but do away with her easy-going system of living, and Pompeian unearthings wouldn't be in it. Divorce cases are still rare in our courts, but the scarcity is not at all occasioned by lack of material for a foundation.

The comic papers have worn the street car joke pretty nearly threadbare, but just here in little St. John we often come across funny incidents, full of originality, and guaranteed to cause smiles of considerable latitude, if penned and penciled into print.

A few afternoons ago a young lady who to all appearances had only a short time before left her rural home, was riding in company with a few others on an open-air car on route to the American boat. While passing down Main street, the young woman jumped up in her seat and pointing her parasol at a passer-by called out to her friends beside her, "There's Aunt Sophy now!" The conductor pulled the bell and the electric stopped. "Aunt Sophy" and her niece met in loving embrace on the sidewalk, but just as the man on the end of the car pulled "two bells" to start, the "niece" tripped lightly from the curbing to the car steps again waving farewells to her relative far in the rear.

Here's another. It was one of those "few" rainy days we had early this summer an elderly gentleman had just boarded a closed car leaving a big Newfoundland dog shivering in the downpour. The electric started but had not gone far when the big canine made one grand jump from the street landing aboard the moving car like a roaring lion and causing the utmost consternation, among the lady passengers especially, by shaking his water soaked shaggy coat among them. The car was stopped and under the circumstances both master and Newfoundland thought it best to depart. The shower-bathed crowd heaved a sigh of relief.

A really "green" conductor has become somewhat of a scarcity on the St. John Railway service nowadays, but to show that the once plentiful article is not yet wholly extinct the following incident might be quoted.

The novice had taken his position at the end of the car at the foot of Indian town hill and after the motorman informed him that it was time to be moving the pupil says "all right, let her go"

"Well then ring your bell," says the motorman sharply and the conductor pulled the string. On the way up the hill however the uninitiated knight of the trolley-ropes and wire box, wishing to become at once acquainted with the mysterious workings of the signal cord, pulled it. The car was brought to a sharp standstill on the steep up-grade. Half conscious that he had done something wrong the new man ran forward in the car and throwing open the front doors said "go ahead, I was only a tryin her." An unmentionable remark from the motorman coupled with the angered command to give the formal start-signal, brought the other to his senses and

with the air of a veteran box-passer he slammed the doors and pulled the fare register cord twice. Of course the car didn't start and the would-be was just out one dime.

The short but illustrious reign of the summer girl is fast drawing to a close for another year at least. I really don't know whether or not the girls of St. John become "engaged" oftener than their sisters in the run of a summer, but I know this much, if they don't its not their fault. A stranger (of the male persuasion of course) in coming to the city is at once struck with the singular beauty of our marriageable young ladies and loses no time in saying so. They are ever present in fine weather nor does an occasional fog-furly disconcert them, although they are quite frequently heard to complain of the havoc it plays with their bangs. "Just look at my hair!" they exclaim when they meet in a fog bank. Its at the matinee you see them all in their glory; they're in love with the hero, bathed in tears when the pathetic parts are rung in, but when the curtain drops between the acts, they are themselves again. A battery of opera glasses, hundreds in number, is turned unmercifully upon the few catchy young men there may be in the audience; strangers invariably preferred.

It is at these majinees that St. John's beautiful set is well represented. You find them there in cool organdie muslins, dainty chiffon hats, bright summer silks, pretty lawns, looking as chic as fashion of the country allows with just enough of the coquette about them to baffle the admirer who wishes at once to learn his inamorita's all-the-year-round disposition. After the show the parade commences, along Union to Charlotte, along King and then the order is reversed. Group by group the girls disappear and by six o'clock the streets are once more robbed of their flood of dainty dresses and bright millinery.

While the times in almost every particular are on the constant advance and new customs are supplanting those of former decades, there yet remains one thing characteristic of the old English blooded people of Canada and that is their hospitality. Where is there a farmhouse in this or the sister provinces that a belated wayfarer is not given shelter and lodging nor is the city with its more modern ways at all behind in extending friendliness.

This season in particular hospitality has been served up in large blocks, so to speak, and yet are the doors of many of our homes to remain open for two months longer at least. Before the first of October or thereabout a number of church conventions, other religious gatherings and exhibition celebrations are booked, which will bring thousands of visitors to our city all of whom expect of course, free accommodation. At the Baptist convention soon to assemble it is estimated some five hundred delegates will be in the city the Christian Endeavour reunion to be held shortly, three hundred more and at the interdenominational Sunday school gathering, later on, seven hundred and fifty representatives are expected. These with provincial and maritime assemblings among individual denominations, societies etc., will test the proof of Canadian open-heartedness to the utmost.

A city clergyman in writing of entertaining delegates at conventions says—

"Brethren of the churches, when you are appointing delegates to represent your church bear in mind that no less than half a million dollars are involved in the business transacted at our Convention. In view of this fact send such men and women only, as you would be willing to entrust with the joint management of this amount were your own bread and butter involved in their deliberations and decisions.

"Our Convention is not a picnic excursion with a dash of religion thrown in. It is a body of earnest men and women meeting to devise ways and means by which our domination can more efficiently aid in extending the Kingdom of Jesus Christ upon earth."

At the time of writing, the man Smith arrested for brutal assault upon another citizen on Saturday night last, had not been dealt with by the authorities, but it is to be hoped when he does come up for trial a wholesome example will be made of him, and punishment fit and proper for such a character meted out. The man at present awaiting judgement represents, I

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am sorry to say, a class of citizens who take peculiar delight in the more brutal amusement, such as maiming an unfortunate being or doing bodily harm, as in the case of the colored man Hector who was only a short time ago able to get around after a year and a half of suffering inflicted by kerosene burning and other tortures, inflicted by this certain crowd of sports in a King square rendezvous. Smith was among the number, and as this is his second offence it may go hard with him.

Have you entertained your grandparents to a ride on the automatic bicycle at the Victoria yet? If you haven't you "auto."

What has become of Mahogany Island and its summer sublimity. It looks as if the banner resort of the last couple of seasons had died the death so often inflicted by fickle St. John.

VALDIMAR.

OLDEST BANK IN THE WORLD.

Naples Boasts a Financial Institution Founded in 1539.

Mr. Neville Rolfe, British consul at Naples, gives an interesting account of the vast history and present position of the Bank of Naples, which is, he says, the oldest bank in existence, for the Monte Vecchio of Venice and the Banco San Giorgio at Genoa, both founded in the twelfth century, have ceased to exist, as has also the Bank of Barcelona, founded in the fourteenth century. The Bank of Naples was founded in 1539, and is a State bank, with a considerable capital, to which no one lays any claim; in other words, it is a joint stock bank, but with no shareholders. When Charles V. went to take possession of the kingdom his new subjects desired to receive him with becoming magnificence, and therefore contracted vast loans with the Jews against valuable pledges. These loans they are unable to repay, and to get rid of the difficulty his Majesty banished the Jews from the kingdom. The Jews managed before their departure to sell the pledges to two Neapolitans at very easy prices. The new holders offered them to the original owners at a small profit, and they also offered further loans without interest on the old security. Lome philanthropists stepped in and gave considerable gifts to the new enterprise, provided loans without interest were made. In 1573 the bank was established on these lines, and was, in fact a charitable pawnbroker. But by degrees its scope enlarged into that of a bank doing an ordinary commercial business. In 1634 it had an income from Government securities of £7,800, besides the capital necessary for carrying on its business.

In 1685, in a commercial crisis, the Government forced it to lend £11,900 for two or three years certain, without interest. The result was a loss to the bank and in a few years it was declared to be £50,000 in debt. In 1691 it had recovered its position, but a series of frauds and losses amounting to nearly £100,000 crippled it again. In December last Mr. Luzzatti proved to the Chamber that the bank had recently lost £3,600,000, for a great part of which the branches at Genoa, Bologna and Milan are responsible. Nothing short of state interference can now save the bank, and Mr. Luzzatti was anxious of Italy on the lines of the Banks of France and England. This, however, met with very strong opposition in the Neapolitan provinces. It is proposed to issue Government paper to the amount of 45,000,000 francs, which represents the bullion in the hands of the bank, and from the interest accruing to form a sinking fund to place the institution on a sound financial basis. The interest is fixed at 3½ per cent. net, instead of the normal rate of 4½; the holder of the paper will thus lose ¼ per cent. in exchange for his Government security and the Government will lose the same amount. But both parties will lose a great deal more were the Bank of Naples to stop payment.—London Times.

THE SUMMER VACATION.

A Change Even in Minor Things Will be a Benefit.

In the Ladies' Home Journal Edward W. Bok gives some sensible advice upon "Going Away in Summer." He points to the mistake that instead of a rest and change so many women and girls physically tired and in need of recuperation, make of their vacation a round of continuous gayety, every moment crowded with some excitement of pleasure. In consequence the woman who goes away for a rest comes back tired and worn out. Mr.

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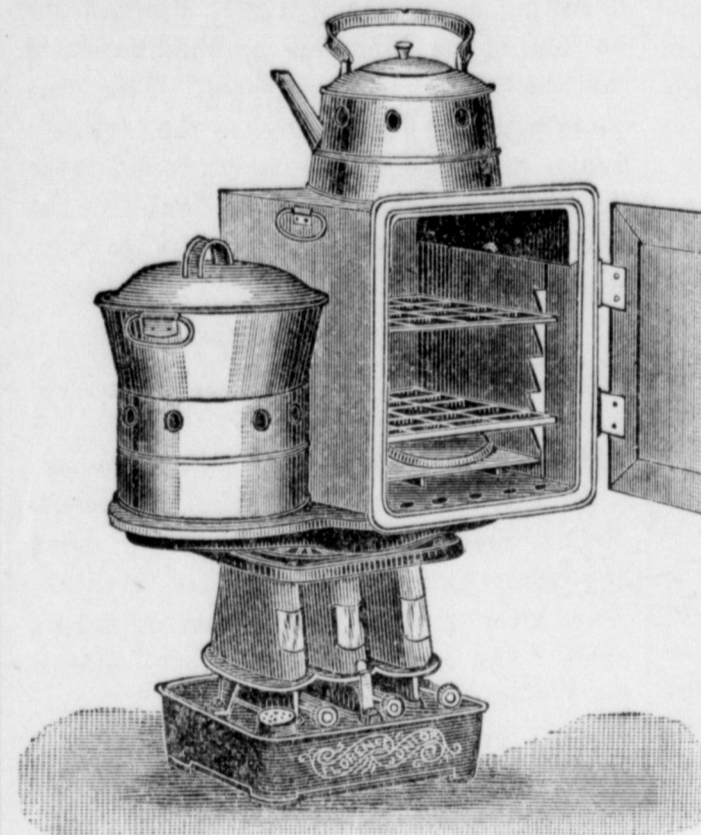
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Bok very truly says: "We all speak of 'going away' when we start on a vacation. But most of us do not 'go away.' 'Going away' means cutting ourselves entirely free from everything that has entered into our lives during the year—away from things which have occupied us, away from disturbing troubles, away from depressing surroundings, away from one's daily self to seek for one's best self, away from familiar places and people. Such a change means a change in ourselves, in our thoughts, in our ideas, in our motives, in our outlook on everything. The idea that we must ever keep ourselves busy, even in vacation, so that the mind may not become rusted, is all nonsense."

For those who cannot go away Mr. Bok advises a change in their mode of living, or in their daily work. "We need a change in our lives," he contends, "even if it is only a change of rooms; of merely not sleeping in the same rooms in summer as we do in winter, or even a rearrangement of the furniture, of the curtains, carpets or pictures in our room any change. No woman is so humble of circumstances that she cannot make her life pleasanter and higher, bringing some change into it. A rest at home, with the mind refreshed by compassing minor changes from day to day, it oftentimes as much needed and as beneficial as a long journey to other places or in other lands. One's limitations are often of immeasurable good as they show us how to get personal benefit in spite of them. 'Going away,' in the summer need not always mean leaving the city or leaving one's home. It is, of course, stay at home and yet 'go away'—go away from things as we have had them for a twelve month, and make them different."

A Young Man

with a thorough knowledge of business has a much better chance than without it. 3 to 4 months of earnest work is enough to complete a course here. Shorthand saves HALF the usual time. Learn by mail; lesson free; ask Snell's Business College, Truro, N. S.

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WANTED Old established wholesale House wants one or two honest and industrious representatives for this section. Can pay a hustler about \$12.00 a week to start with. DRAWN 25, Brantford, Ont.

WANTED Young men and women to help in the Armenian cause. Good pay. Will send copy of my little book, "Your Place in Life," free, to any who write. Rev. T. S. Linscott, Brantford, Ont.

WANTED RELIABLE MERCHANTS in each town to handle our waterproof Cold Water Paint. Five million pounds sold in United States last year. VICTOR KOPF, 49 Francis Xavier, Montreal.

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Sheriff's Sale.

THERE will be sold at Public Auction, at Chubb's Corner (so called), in the city of St. John, in the Province of New Brunswick, on

Monday, the 13th day of September next,

at the hour of fifteen minutes after twelve o'clock in the afternoon:

All the estate, right, title and interest of THE CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY in and to all that part of the Southern Division of the Central Railway, commencing at the life section of the said Central Railway with the dividing line of the Counties of Kings and the City and County of Saint John, at, near or about Merce Station (so called), on said Southern Division, and thence running in a southerly direction through the parish of Saint Martin, in said City and County of Saint John, to the terminus of the said Southern Division of the said Central Railway, at the village of Saint Martins, in the parish aforesaid, the Road and roadway of said Railway having a uniform width of one hundred feet, and being about twelve miles in length, together with the Road, Road-bed, Right of way, Rails, Ties, Siding, Turntables, Electric lines and appurtenances, Building Privileges, Casements, Property uses and appurtenances, any belonging or appertaining to the said Southern Division of the said Central Railway.

The same having been levied on and seized by me the undersigned Sheriff on and under an execution out of the Supreme Court against the said The Central Railway Company at the suit of Edward W. Clark, Sabin W. Colton, Junior, E. Walter Clark, Junior, G. Howard Clark, Junior, and Milton Colton.

Dated this first day of June, A. D. 1897.

H. LAWRENCE STURDEE,
Sheriff of the City and County of Saint John.

R. L. B. TWEEDIE,
Plaintiff's Attorney.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

There will be sold at Public Auction at Chubb's Corner (so called) in the City of St. John in the Province of New Brunswick, on SATURDAY the fourteenth day of August next, at the hour of fifteen minutes after twelve o'clock P. M. of the said day: All the right title and interest of Thomas Youngclaus in and to the leasehold premises described as: All the certain lot of land situated lying and being in Dufferin Ward in the City of Saint John on the Southwestern corner of Mill and Main Streets bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the said Southwestern corner of Mill and Main Streets thence running westerly along the Southern line of Main Street forty two feet nine inches, thence southerly at right angles to said Southern line of Main Street forty seven feet nine inches, thence southerly parallel to Mill Street aforesaid twenty six feet, thence at right angles Easterly sixty feet to the Western line of Mill Street, thence along the said Western line of Mill Street No. thirty nine feet more or less to the place of beginning being the northern portion of lot E number two as shown on plan number five of the sub-division of the Estate of Robert F. Hazen. Together with the buildings and erections thereon standing and being.

The same having been levied on and seized by me the undersigned Sheriff, on and under an execution issued out of the Supreme Court against the said Thomas Youngclaus at the suit of Catherine McIntyre.

Dated the eighth day of May A. D. 1897.

H. LAWRENCE STURDEE,
Sheriff of the City and County of Saint John, N. B.

H. A. McKeown,
Plaintiff's Attorney.

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