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THE GRANITE TOWN GREETINGS

THE GRANITE TOWN
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FRIDAY, SEPT., 22 1911

Europe in the Field of Inven- tion.

"Everybody is familiar with the
claim that American inventors, engi-
neers and manufacturers led the
world," says Engineering News. "A
vast amount of boasting has been
done about American ingenuity and
originality and enterprise. If this
claim were well founded it would be
indeed matter for national pride, and
a quarter century or more ago such a
claim had a good deal to justify it.
There are a number of fields of in-
vention and manufacture in which
the pioneer work was done by Ameri-
cans and in which the statistics of
exports still testify to our high stand-
ing.

"But," continues the News, "when
one views the whole field of engi-
neering and industry and particularly
the progress of the last twenty-five
years, it is rather humiliating to con-
fess that, instead of being in the lead,
the United States is lagging far in
the rear.

"Take, for example, the advances
made in iron and steel metallurgy
during the last twenty-five years.
Some original contributions have
been made to the art by American
inventors at that time, of course, but
the great advances which have been
made have almost all originated
abroad. We are to-day something
like five years behind Germany in
iron and steel metallurgy, and such
innovations as are being introduced
are most of them merely following
the lead set by foreigners years ago.

"We do not believe this is because
American engineers are any less in-
genious or original than those of Eu-
rope, though they may indeed be de-
ficient in training and scientific edu-
cation compared with those of Ger-
many. We believe the main cause is
the wholesale consolidation which
has taken place in American industry.
A huge organization is too clumsy to
take up the development of an origi-
nal idea. With the market closely
controlled and profits assured by fol-
lowing standard methods, those who
control our trusts do not want the
bother of developing anything new."

The News instances metallurgy on-
ly by way of illustration. There are
plenty of other fields of industry
where exactly the same condition ex-
ists. Americans are building the
same machines and using the same
methods of a dozen years ago, and
the real advances in the art are be-
ing made by European inventors and
manufacturers.

"Those 'effete' nations of Europe
actually appear to take certain pride
in doing new things that are worth
while. Original work by engineers
and designers is encouraged and re-
warded. In some cases American
manufacturers take up these foreign
inventions after they have been de-
veloped on the other side of the wa-
ter, and after four or five years the
new improvement begins to be intro-
duced here. In other cases a dozen

years or more elapse before any Am-
erican has enterprised enough to in-
troduce here what has proved to be
excellent on the other side of the
ocean.

"It would be easy to cite fifty or a
hundred important inventions of the
last quarter of a century which have
originated in Europe.

"A noticeable illustration of the
lack of originality in the present day
American industry is the develop-
ment of the internal combustion en-
gine. There is no doubt that the
application of this type of prime
mover to a wide range of uses has
been the most important develop-
ment in mechanical engineering of
the past twenty-five years; but the
original work in this field has almost
all been done abroad. We have
merely copied the Europe inventions.
Of course there are some few mori-
tous details of design which have
been worked out by Americans, but
nearly all the really notable advances
in the field of gas and oil engines
from the beginning have been made
in Europe."

The Legend of the Rain-Tree

During the last few months American
newspapers have revived the well-worn
tale of the "Peruvian rain-tree," which
affords protection against drought. The
leaves of this tree are said to have
the property of condensing atmospheric mois-
ture in large quantities and precipitating
it in the form of rain. According to one
writer: "The water falls from the leaves
and oozes from the trunk and forms ver-
tebrable rivers, which can be led as irrigat-
ing canals to any point desired. Making
liberal allowance for evaporation and in-
filtration, a sq. mile grove of the trees
would supply for distribution about 100,
000 gallons of water daily."

On the strength of similar stories one
of the trees to which the name "rain-tree"
has been most often applied, viz. Albizia
(or Pithecolobium) Saman, has lately
been exploited and sold extensively in
Australia. The virtues claimed for it have
proved to be altogether illusory, although
it is useful as a shade-tree, and is widely
planted for this purpose in semi-tropical
and tropical countries.

The legend of the "rain-tree" or
"raining tree" dates back to the stories
of the Fortunata Isles, where no rain
fell from the skies and the soil was re-
freshed by the moisture shed by a tree of
the sorts described. The early navigators
brought home stories of similar trees in
the East Indies, in Guinea, Brazil, etc.
The Peruvian rain-tree appears to have
been brought to the notice of the world
by the reports of a United States consul
in Peru, about 1877. These reports were
widely quoted at the time, and led the
government of India to seek information
on the subject from authorities of Kew
Gardens. The investigation of W. T.
Thistlethorn Dyer brought to light a plau-
sible explanation of at least a part of
the rain-tree stories.

The traveler Spruce reported his own
experiences with the rain-tree as follows:
"The Tania-capi, or rain-tree of the
eastern Peruvian Andes, is not a myth,
but a fact, although not exactly in the
way popular rumour has lately presented
it. I first witnessed the phenomenon in
September, 1855, when residing at Tara-
poto. I had gone one morning at day-
break, with two assistants, into the ad-
jacent wooded hills to botanize. A little
after seven o'clock we came under a low-
lying spreading tree, from which with a
perfectly clear sky overhead a smart rain
was falling. A glance upward showed a
multitude of clouds sucking the juices of
the tender young branches and leaves,
and squirting forth slender streams of
limpid fluid."

This is not the only explanation. That
many plants spontaneously exude mois-
ture under suitable conditions is well
known. The phenomenon is called "gutta-
tion," and has perhaps been most fully
described by A. Burgerstein in his work
"Die Transpiration der Pflanzen" (Jena
1904). The moisture drawn up from the
roots of the plants most frequently passes
off into the air in a gaseous form; i. e., by
transpiration. If the air is saturated with
moisture, and if the supply of moisture
to the roots is copious, then liquid drops
will be exuded sometimes in larger quan-
tities. Molisch records a case in which a
single leaf of species of *Colocasia* gave off
190 drops per minute. Burgerstein gives

a list of 241 plants, belonging to 101
families, in which guttation has been ob-
served.

This process goes on chiefly at night,
and in cloudy and foggy weather; i. e.,
when the relative humidity of the air is
highest. It is altogether probable that in
the moister parts of the tropics there are
trees which exhibit this phenomenon in
such a degree that the name "rain-tree"
may be fittingly applied to them. It is,
however, certain that no such process
can occur in a dry climate, and that the
proposal to plant the rain-tree as a pan-
acea against drought is entirely chimeri-
cal.--Std. Am.

Juvenile Prodigies.

(From the London Chronicle.)
Of all juvenile prodigies was there ever
one to compare with Master Betty, the
Infant Roscius? The press of the day vot-
ed him "a very extraordinary phenom-
enon.... playing marbles in a morning
and Richard III. in the evening;... an
inspired being.... of exquisite judgment
and sensibility.... the energy of whose
delivery was such as to leave all descrip-
tion at a distance.... The intelligence
of manner, the eloquence of the eye when
speech was denied, the rapid yet judi-
cious transitions from prostrate affliction
to dignified resentment, are qualities
which a Garrick might display." The
Edinburgh manager was in fear that the
young actor's voice would not fill the
house. "My dear sir," said the twelve-
year-old genius, "I beg you will be under
no apprehensions upon that score, for if
my voice does not fill your house my play-
ing will."

Writing for the stage seems always
to have attracted the prodigy. Douglas Jer-
old wrote his successful farce, "More
Frightened Than Hart," before he was
fifteen, and Lope de Vega the famous
Spaniard, was not fourteen when his first
play was produced. And William Ireland
produced his Shakespeare forgeries,
which were good enough to deceive the
learned, when he was about fifteen.

Dutch Settlement for Saskatchewan.

(Regina Leader.)
T. Krull, Jr., of Mijchrecht, Holland,
is on his way back to Holland. He came
to Canada a few months ago for the
purpose of studying the agricultural condi-
tions in this country and selecting a
suitable tract of land for establishing a
colony of experienced Dutch farmers.
He covered all the Eastern as well as the
Western provinces, and the most adapt-
able place he found for his people was in
the country around Punnichiv, Sask.,
along the Grand Trunk Pacific.

He has already made preliminary ar-
rangements to have his people move to
Canada next spring, and next summer a
couple of hundred of new homes will be
built by Hollandish immigrants around
Punnichiv.

Mr. Krull is the son of a prosperous
farmer in Holland, and his neighbors,
hearing so much about the opportunities
in Canada, decided to investigate the
possibilities for themselves by sending
him on a trip to this country. He is
very enthusiastic over the development
taking place in Western Canada, and
said it certainly was a revelation to him
to see such substantial towns and well
established farms along the Grand Trunk
Pacific, considering this line had only
been in existence about three years.

The new-comers from Holland intend
to engage in mixed farming and follow
their old pursuit of dairying and cattle
raising which makes "small Holland"
so prominent all over the world. Mr.
Krull's first attention to Canada was at-
tracted by the splendid exhibit of the
Grand Trunk Pacific at the World's Fair
in Brussels, Belgium, in 1910.

Nervous Young Girls.

One is rather shocked in this day of
athletics and fresh air to know how pre-
valent neurasthenia is among young
girls. One is constantly hearing of nerv-
ous break-downs while girls are still
too young to know the meaning of
nerves. This condition has been laid at
the door of the school life by eminent
authorities.

It seems that the practically contin-
uous time table of the school life of the
present day is responsible for the devel-
opment of nerves. Girls overtaken in

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athletics and in the class-room develop a
restless incapacity to interest and occupy
themselves satisfactorily when they re-
turn to their homes.

To this grinding and pushing is also
due the fact that valuable knowledge of
character is so assimilated that it fails to
make life a comprehensible and interest-
ing whole. The failure is a serious de-
fect in any system of education.

It is equally injurious on the other
hand, to fill a girl's life with such a
continuous round of games and lessons
that the knowledge absorbed from both
has no time to be digested. The modern
girl undoubtedly needs more leisure.

The art of assimilation is what will
make a girl into the competent, self-re-
liant who will be able to enjoy applying
what she has learned to any circumstance
she may find herself in, one who will be
able to reward all forms of athletics in
their proper proportion and not become
morbid if she is withdrawn from their in-
fluence.

One cannot quarrel with games as a
means of exercise if they are not carried
to the extreme, but that seems to a great
extent to be just the tendency of the
schoolgirl's training.

Consequently educators are beginning
to see the advantage of giving girls prop-
er exercise by means of practical work.
There is a satisfaction in it that cannot
find a counterpart in games.--Ex.

F. M. CAWLEY

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NOTICE OF SALE

To Alvin S. Murphy, late of the parish
of Dumbarton, in the county of Charlotte
and Province of New Brunswick, Farmer,
and to all others to whom it may in wise
concern:

Notice is hereby given that under and
by virtue of the terms of the power of
sale contained in a mortgage made be-
tween Alvin S. Murphy of the one part,
and Irwin E. Gillmor of the other part,
bearing date the third day of May, A.
D. 1909, and duly recorded in the Rec-
ords of Charlotte county, in Book No. 40,
at pages 343 to 346, there will, default
having been made in the payment of
moneys secured by said mortgage, be
sold at private sale at the residence of
the said Irwin E. Gillmor at Bonny Riv-
er, County of Charlotte, Province of New
Brunswick, on Thursday the 21st day of
Sept. A. D. 1911, at 3 o'clock in the af-
ternoon. Land described in said mort-
gage as follows: "All that certain lot of
land situated in Pleasant Ridge in said
Parish of Dumbarton, County and Prov-
ince aforesaid, bounded and described as
follows-to-wit: Bounded on the west
by Bonny Brook, so called, on the north
by land owned by John New, on the east
by the Boundary line of the granted land
on the east of Pleasant Ridge, on the
south by and owned by the heirs of one
Robert McDowan. Containing 175 acres
more or less." Together with the build-
ings thereon and the privileges thereto
belonging.

Dated the 15th day of June A. D. 1911.
Irwin E. Gillmor, Mortgagee.

NOTICE

Owing to the failure of the Lords
Cove Team to keep their engagement on
Labor Day or to even notify us as to
their intention, so that we could arrange
with some other team for the day, and
to the fact that we have had several
games postponed on account of rain,
which we could not arrange later, we
have been under more expense than our
gate receipts will cover so we respect-
fully ask all whose names are attached to
the Guarantee Fund would hand their
amounts to the Treasurer.

John C. O'Brien
St. George B. B. A.

St. Gaudens, the celebrated American
sculptor-set on a pedestal at the foot of
a great triangular shaft, whose tripod
crown rises more than 60 feet.

"Yes," said the musician in a remi-
niscent mood, "my wife fell in love with
me and married me when I was 'earning
to play the cornet.'"

"Are you sure," asked his friend,
"that she married you because she loved
you, or to make you stop practising on
the cornet?"

The Parnell monument in Dublin,
which has cost about 9,000 pounds, is
now complete. The unveiling will take
place on October 1, when the ceremony
will be performed by Mr. John Redmond,
M. P. The memorial consists of a bronze
statue of heroic size-the work of the late