TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

By the Women's Christian Temperance Union of St. John.

Trust the people—the wise and the ignorant, the good and the bad—with the gravest questions, and in the end you educate the race.

HINTS FOR MOTHERS' MEETINGS.

* * * * * * *

"What is your idea of a mothers' meeting?"

"What is my idea of a mothers' meting?" (The housekeeper was on the stool by this time, with a rather tired head resting against the wall).

"Not one where they pray all the time and do nothing else. The mothers' meeting that I want to attend is one, not where prayer is absent, understand me, but one where I may learn something practical—how to best feed my children, how best to dress them, how to play with them, how to teach them the thousand and one things a mother ought to teach them even before they go to school at all."

"What do you think of having a woman doctor to give us a few talks?"

"Splendid; just what we need. I cannot get out much for I have no help, but I should make an effort to go to those."

"Do you suppose many would come? I have spoken with my doctor about it. She says it's no use." 'When I left college,' she said, 'I was very enthusiastic. I lectured for the W. C. T. U., the Y. W. C. A., the Girls' clubs, Women's clubs, Women's councils and what not, but I could not see an atom of result. I even took the health baby clothes that I made with my own hands, got a real live baby and dressed it before them to show just how it should be done, and they all said it was very fine. But did they do it afterwards themselves? Not a bit of it. They just kept right on in their own old way. No reason for it except that their mothers and grandmothers had done it before them.'"

"Yes, I know, a great many will do so, but some will not."

"What is your idea of a mothers' meeting?"

The question was next asked of a bright capable Scotch woman, the mother of a grown up family.

"One idea, I think, is for the older women to talk to the younger mothers out of their own experience. We want to show younger women the best books and papers that bear on the subjects nearest to mother hearts. When I was married," (and here the eyes took on a faraway look that the speaker was not conscious of). "I went far away from my mother. I was shy and reserved, I could not ask my mother, and I would not ask anyone else, but I got papers and books and studied and educated myself. And among the scores of more modern writers, which I have read since, I have found nothing better than the books I read then. When I talk at a mothers' meeting I try to impress upon them the importance of training children first of all in habits of perfect obedience. When once a child has learned to obey he has learned something that will help him safely over the hardest experiences of life.

"After obedience, or, rather, right along with it, I say to young mothers teach a child to judge for himself. He will not always be where he can ask your advice ever if he were sure to feel like acting upon it. A child must learn to judge of the right and wrong of things."

"What is your idea of mothers' meetings?"

The question was this time asked of Miss Barber, the W. C. T. U. provincial superintendent of social purity and mothers' meetings; and all who know Miss Barber, and the work she has accomplished in city and province, know that there is no other subject which she has more at heart. She is even now making strong appeals to Women's Christian Temperance union workers to spread far and wide the idea of mothers' meetings.

"If you could only know," she says to one, sorrowfully, "the need of these meetings as I see it, and am seeing it every day. With the purity work of the union the mothers' meetings must be largely concerned. If I could only tell you of the sorrowful cases constantly coming to us for shelter. Girls, not from the poor, degraded classes of society, as many would have us think, but from quiet, happy country homes, where we have been accustomed to think there is little temptation. But sad experience has proved that preventive work in our social purity department is needed everywhere. Organize mothers' meetings everywhere, even in the most scattered districts. Do not be discouraged if sometimes only one or two are present. Here pray for your children and study that you may learn how to teach them all they ought to know—yes, ought to know—not only before they grow up, but before they ever go to school at all. Ignorance is innocence. Children must and will know the truth. Where, then, shall they best learn it, from evil associates whom the mother, perhaps, never suspects the existence of until it is too late, or from the lips of the mother herself? Who should tell them of the holiest things in life, but the holiest person their little trusting hearts know? I have known such terrible results to follow the failure of the mother to speak in time, in the lives of both boys and girls, that I would send a warning cry in every home throughout the land. Tell the mothers to take their little boys and girls, before they ever go to school, pledge them not to talk to any one on any subject which they would not want mother to hear them talking about, and promise that if they will confide in you you will be truthful with them. Then, I would have mothers and fathers look carefully to the books and papers coming into the children's hands. Even in the best homes papers are allowed in which the children find much that is unhealthy and even corrupting, and the parents hardly ever give the matter a thought."

The idea of mothers' meetings is growing fast. The temperance unions, Y. W. C. A.'s, Woman's councils, Women's clubs, are all taking it up. Any community now without some such meetings may consider itself far behind the times. Those who want further particulars will do well to write for special literature on this subject. Write to Miss Bascom, 56 Elm avenue, Toronto, W. C. T. U. literature superintendent for the dominion, and ask her to send you samples of all the literature she has that would be useful to you in such meetings. Read it all carefully and then send for what you most need, and use it as your grace and common sense suggest.

Any society wishing to organize a mothers' meeting will get much practical help from Miss Barber. Miss Barber says: "Full as my hands are, if any of the unions wish me to visit them and speak or organize mothers' meetings or White Shield societies, and will write asking me, I will try to go for a short time into any county needing me."

BY THE MAILS TO HEAVEN.

Little Elsie Wanted to Send a Gift to Brother.

Feared He Might be Overlooked by the Almighty—A White Lamb in a Package, Her Own Christmas Present.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Two pennies dropped on the ledge of the brass-barred window. The postal clerk looked up. He was out of sorts. Two holidays in succession had been too much for him. A little golden head appeared just topping the ledge.

"Well?" snapped the clerk.

He had just opened the window in the post office yesterday morning, and eight hours of the hardest kind of work were in sight. The little girl, who had been first in the line, hesitated a moment.

"Please, mister," she began, "I want a stamp for this to send it to my little brother."

In her hands she held up a package done up in brown paper and roughly tied with a bit of coarse twine. It was almost falling apart in her tiny hands. She held it out to the clerk, who took it with the same grace that he had been taking thousands of packages during the holidays.

He looked at the address to see whether it was foreign or domestic. Then he looked back at the child. There was a queer look in his eye that had not been there before. Post office clerks see many strange packages and any quantity of them addressed to "Santa Claus." But this one was not for Santa Claus. It read:

"Robert McNaughton,
Heaven."

For a moment the clerk hesitated. The little one took it for a refusal to accept the parcel because she had not paid enough for the postage. Quickly the tiny hands fumbled at a little purse where two more pennies were in keeping. These were on the window ledge in a moment with the other two.

"There's more pennies, sir," said the little one. "Please take it now. I haven't any more pennies."

"Why, my child," said the clerk, who had babies of his own at home, "——"

"Oh, please," broke in the little one, "it's for my little brother in heaven. He died last week and perhaps he is so strange in Heaven that God has forgotten to give him any Christmas present. And he'd be so disappointed."

Tears were in the clerk's eyes by this time—he was thinking of the little flaxen-haired one of his own at home. Tears were in the child's eyes, too, and the little lip was quivering.

"Oh, sir, it's all right," she insisted. "This is my very own to give away. Santa Claus brought it to me on Christmas. My papa doesn't know and my mamma doesn't know. They cried on Christmas 'cause Robbie had gone to live with the angels. But I want to send something to Robbie all myself."

The little one was crying now. Her sobs came fast and deep. Her poor little heart was on the point of breaking.

"Robbie went away to God last week!" she sobbed, "and little Elsie has no one left to play with."

The clerk explained that the mail did not go where her little brother was so happy with the angels. It wasn't because she didn't have enough pennies to pay for it, it was because the steam cars couldn't go cause the steam cars couldn't go there. He was as tender as he could be, and one woman in black who had come on the line that was kept standing there because of the little one's pleading began to weep.

So the clerk handed back the package to the child and she turned away with tears of bitter disappointment in her eyes.

"Robbie will have no Christmas!" she sobbed.

Just then the cover came off her precious package. It held a little white lamb, tied with pink ribbon.

"Gimme ten twos," chirped a voice, and the clerk turned back to the routine of his work.

NEURALGIA TORMENTS.

Thousands Could Tell the Same Story of Misery that William Davidson Tells—And Thousands Have Today the Same Song of Rejoicing—Cured by South American Nervine.

"I suffered untold misery for over three months from neuralgia of the stomach. Physicians did their best to help me, but all attempts were baffled. I saw South American Nervine advertised and resolved to try it. The first bottle gave me great relief, and after I had used six bottles I was completely cured of this dreadful disease." William Davidson, Thedford, Ont.

The Drama in Seattle.—The Tragedian—Why is there so much sneezing in the audience? The Super—It's the dust, sir. An usher has just turned down two seats that were occupied last night by those Klondyke miners. —Cleveland Dealer.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

Marriage of S. A. M. Skinner at London, Ont.

Hon. Mr. Dobell on the Prospects of the Fast Atlantic Service.

Edward Blake Leaves for Ireland—Amalgamation of the Knitting Mills Possible.

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—The government was notified today that a deputation of Yukon miners were en route to Ottawa to protest against the present unjust mining laws. They will interview Premier Laurier and colleagues next Wednesday.

The premier of New Zealand cabled the postmaster general today that the New Zealand legislature having passed the mail subsidy bill, the alternate services to Vancouver and San Francisco will commence on the 8th proximo. Hitherto the New Zealand steamers carrying the mails from San Francisco have been somewhat erratic, often sailing within a day or so of the Vanvouver steamers. Under the new arrangement, made by the New Zealand government. The 'Frisco mails must be carried intermediate with the Vancouver mails, so that Canada and the United States will have a fortnightly mail. The first mail under the new arrangement will leave Vancouver on Feb. 10th.

Commander Wakeham has returned from New Bedford. He saw many old captains of the whaling fleets and obtained their declarations as to the period of unobstructed navigation of Hudson's Straits.

QUEBEC, Dec. 28.—Hon. R. R. Dobell, who left for Ottawa this afternoon, talked to a reporter this morning on the present position of the fast Atlantic steamship line. He states that a letter has just been received by the government that Petersen, Tate & Co. had satisfied the government as to the second ten thousand pounds they were required to put up as security for the due execution of the contract. Unless this is carried out, the whole twenty thousand pounds will be forfeited. Hon. Mr. Dobell sees in the fact that the firm has satisfied the government in the matter of the second ten thousand pounds, the strongest possible assurance that they intend to execute the contract. The model of the turret steamer, now on private exhibition in London, Hon. Mr. Dobell declares to be absolutely the most perfect ocean going steamer yet devised, while the admiralty constructor claims for it more stability than for any steamship afloat. Owing to the engineers' strike on the other side, Hon. Mr. Dobell contends that Canada is not losing as much time as would at first appear, for nearly all the yards are idle, and it is feared that soon there will be scarcely anything going on, as it is announced in the papers that Harland and Wolff and Fairfield Co. are going to lockout. The minister says it is impossible to estimate the wicked opposition made to Petersen, Tate & Co., and unworthy methods resorted to by opponents of their scheme. The government in accepting their tender knew that they were not a wealthy firm, Mr. Dobell added, and in accepting their tender was aware of the fact that they were taking more or less risk. Still the fact that the firm had paid in cash ten thousand pounds and satisfied the government's demands for another ten thousand pounds, was sufficient guarantee that it was a fairly reputable firm. And it must not be forgotten that the government's course ment a saving to the country of no less a sum than five hundred thousand pounds sterling, while securing for Canada a service much superior to anything now on the Atlantic.

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—Edward Blake left for Ireland yesterday. Among the contributions received by him for the Canadian Irish parliamentary fund, of which he is treasurer, are: Toronto, $4,764; St. John, $100. The total is $7,093.

MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—It is said the amalgamation of the Canadian Knitting mills is one of the near possibilities.

The Merchants' Cotton company, at a meeting of the directors, held today, decided to place their goods with the wholesale trades and manufacturers direct through special selling department.

LONDON, Ont., Dec. 28.—The Memorial Episcopal church was the scene of a fashionable wedding at two o'clock this afternoon, when Miss Perle Edge, daughter of William F. Edge, one of our retired merchants, was united in marriage to Sherwood A. M. Skinner, barrister, of St. John. The church was prettily decorated, and a large number of guests made a most brilliant scene. Rev. Canon Richardson performed the ceremony. The bride was arrayed in a beautiful bridal gown of white satin. She was attended by Miss Hyman Richardson and Miss Gertrude Skinner, a sister of the groom. Both bridesmaids wore becoming gowns of white serge with cream decollete coats. Stewart L. Fairweather of St. John performed most efficiently the duties of groomsman. Master Reginald Lewis was the page, and Miss Pearl Patterson made a charming maid of honor. The ushers were: Walter S. Smith, G. C. Gunn, A. O. Graydon, F. A. Read, Waldo Skinner and Bowyer S. Smith. After the nuptials had been completed the bridal party and guests drove to the residence of the bride's father, which was tastefully and appropriately decorated. There a large reception was held and a sumptuous supper served, and the young couple received the hearty congratulations and good wishes of many friends. They left this evening for Buffalo, New York and Boston on their honeymoon, and then proceeded to St. John. They received many beautiful presents.

OTTAWA, Dec. 29.—It is doubtful whether there will be such interesting developments in the political circles as the Montreal press despatches made believe. Sir Henry Joly does not desire to leave the cabinet. He will not be crowded out. Consequently matters will remain as they are. Mr. Choquette was here today making a strenuous bid for some person.

H. B. Small, ex-secretary of the department of agriculture, writes from Bermuda that in his opinion a large trade in food products now done with New York might be diverted with advantage to the maritime provinces. As instances for the openings for Canadian food products he mentions the following: Where one barrel of Canadian flour is seen a dozen others bear the brand of Minneapolis or some other United States place; butter from the United States is sold retail at from 50 cents to 35 cents per pound. Mr. Small thinks that Canadian butter, if put up in one or two pound boxes, would find a ready sale. Most of the merchants in Bermuda have cold storage facilities on their premises. Large quantities of cheese are consumed. They are principally from the United States, and the retail price is from 18 to 20 cents per pound. There is a large demand for eggs all the year round. Fresh eggs were, at the date of writing of Mr. Small's letter (Dec. 22), being sold retail at 48 cents per dozen; store eggs were 38 cents per dozen, and seldom go below 25 cents per dozen. Mr. Small says there is also a good demand for bacon, hams and dressed fresh beef. Apples are in a limited demand, and the trade in these is already mostly in the hands of Canadian firms. Pressed hay is largely imported, and retails at the rate of $1.12 per hundred pounds. The commissioner of agriculture is going to send per steamer Beta trial shipments of butter in one and two pound tin boxes from the dairy station at Nappan, Nova Scotia.

MONTREAL, Dec. 29.—Clovis St. Louis, dry goods merchant, St. Lawrence street, has assigned at the instance of Thibaudeau Brothers, with liabilities about $35,000.

Francois Desbiens, described by the police as the prince of whiskey distillers, was today sentenced to a fine of $100 or six months by Judge Desnoyers in the police court, on a charge of illegally selling an illicit still. Two other charges for infraction of revenue laws were not preferred.

TORONTO, Dec. 29.—A London cable says: Hon. Dr. Borden, minister of militia, had an interview today with Lord Lansdowne, imperial minister of war, who promised him every possible consideration and assistance in promoting the welfare of schemes affecting Canada. Hon. Dr. Borden also interviewed the commander-in-chief, Lord Wolseley.

PETERBORO, Ont., Dec. 29.—John Burnham, Q. C., ex-M. P., one of the foremost professional and public men of this county, committed suicide last night by jumping into the river at the rear of his residence, where the current is very swift. He was a church warden for twenty-two years, and for a quarter of a century a member of the county council.

OTTAWA, Dec. 30.—The imports for five months show an increase of $4,536,000. The exports increased $14,414,172.

The new regulations governing the treatment of packages and parcels arriving in Canada through the post offices go into effect on January 1st. Heretofore all such packages have been sent to the 57 offices known as exchange offices throughout the dominion, necessitating much trouble on the part of persons living at a distance from any of these offices in procuring parcels. Every package arriving by mail at any post office in Canada from any place outside the dominion is to be sent by mail without manifest to the collector of customs at the nearest port to the place to which the package is directed for examination as to liability of contents to customs duty. On arrival of the package at the Canadian post offices the postal officer must affix to each parcel a red label, which has a memorandum thereon, directing how the parcel is to be dealt with by the customs. When a parcel is found to be duty free, it may be returned to the post office for delivery without payment of further postage and without customs manifest. The customs collectors are to send an advice note or card to the person to whom the parcel is addressed. In 54 places, chiefly in Manitoba, the Northwest, and British Columbia, the postmasters are authorized to collect the customs duties on the postal packages, after the amounts assessed at the nearest port or subport.

Col. McRae of Guelph was in the city today on his way to New Brunswick, where he will confer with the agricultural department regarding the prevalence of tuberculosis. Col. McRae is the Ontario government commissioner.

SOUTHWALD, Ont., Dec. 30.—The residence of John Bole, farmer, was destroyed by fire this morning, and his daughter, Etta, aged 23, perished in the flames.

TORONTO, Dec. 30.

There is a report that another delay has taken place in connection with the extension into Montreal of the Intercolonial railway over the Drummond County railway. No less personage than Mr. Blair is said to be the "offending party" this time. Some months ago it was said that the Drummond County could not be got ready in time to permit a train being run into Montreal before Jan. 1st. It is now certain that it will be some time after that date before the service will be commenced. Various reasons are advanced for the delay, the statement having been circulated that there was difficulty about the bridges on the Drummond County road not coming up to the standard required by the government bridge inspector. It is now stated, however, there is another and more serious reason for the hitch. It is that Hon. Mr. Blair has suddenly discovered that he wants to make the Canada Eastern railway, the Gibson road in New Brunswick, a part of the Intercolonial. While he has no objection to the Drummond County deal going through, he wants the supporters for that scheme to pledge themselves to put the Canada Eastern deal through at the same time. This has caused no little excitement among the promoters of the Drummond County deal, as they do not wish the success of their business jeopardized by any such conflicting proposition. Mr. Blair, it is said, figures that without the support of the Quebec members he could not accomplish his object and now wants the two arrangements put through parliament together.

OTTAWA, Dec. 31.—The Aberdeens returned from Toronto this evening, after a two months' stay in that city. They were met at the station by Premier Laurier and the cabinet, Mayor Bingham, the city council and prominent citizens. Tonight his excellency received a cable message from Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, stating that the Queen had conferred the honor of knighthood upon Chief Justice Burton of Ontario.

A militia general order issued today states that the resignation of Colonel Bliss, assistant adjutant general, has been accepted. The office has been abolished.

The following significant paragraph appears: 5th Batt. Royal Scots of Canada: The further services of Lt. Colonel Strathy having been dispensed with, his name is removed from the list of officers of the active militia.

The imperial government has decided to grant three extra commissions in the regular army for competition among the graduates of the Royal Military college for 1899. They are respectively for artillery, engineers and Indian staff corps.

The challenge cup presented by General Gascoigne for marching and firing competition was won by the Royal Grenadiers.

The regulations governing the employment of non-commissioned officers and men of the permanent force as military staff clerks at head quarters and district head-quarters are promulgated. The system of employing military staff clerks prevailed here for some months and with most satisfactory results.

The Canada Gazette tomorrow contains the following notice: General Montgomery Moore, commanding the forces in Canada, has not replied separately to the numerous applications. He has received applications from those who belong to the imperial forces for medals whilst engaged in warlike operations in the dominion, but he wishes applicants to understand that their letters have been noted and are forwarded for consideration to the war office in England.

Four more Yukon railway applications have been received this week. They include the Stickeen and Teslin Lake, Yukon and Pacific starting from Dyea, the Ashcroft and Stickene River and Northern and Yukon. The latter is projected from Edmonton to Teslin Lake.

3rd "New Brunswick" Artillery—To be major, captain and adjutant—Walter White, vice Jones, promoted.

73rd "Northumberland" Battalion—Captain Wm. McNaughton, No. 4 Co., Capt. Hugh Cameron, No. 5 Co., and Lieut. James Cameron, all retire, retaining rank.

The I. C. R. receipts for the past year were $2,866,028; decrease, $91,612; expenses, $2,925,968; deficits, $59,940, against $55,187 last year.

Hon. Mr. Sifton has decided to allow the firm of Hunter, Rose & Co., Toronto, to publish Ogilvie's forthcoming report on the Yukon, a most unusual procedure in connection with an official report. It will give the firm an absolute monopoly.

MONTREAL, Dec. 31.—Sir Adolphe Chapleau announced at the state dinner at Spencerwood that he was preparing to leave. He added he did not know the name of his successor.

Mrs. Cole of this city has resigned her place on the executive of the dominion W. C. T. U. on account of the union's having refused to condemn the action of Lady Henry Somerset regarding the Indian army.

TORONTO, Dec. 31.—The Evening Telegram's London cable says that the report that the Marquis of Hertford would succeed Lord Aberdeen appears to be without foundation. Lord Hertford professes ignorance.

Dr. Borden sails for home on January 12. He was unable to interview Chamberlain owing to the latter's absence.

RICH VESTMENTS.

A Munificent Gift by Lord and Lady Aberdeen to Pointe Gatineau Church.

OTTAWA, Dec. 30.—A special messenger from Rideau Hall called on the Rev. Father Champagne of Pointe Gatineau on Christmas eve, the bearer of a princely gift from Lord and Lady Aberdeen. The parcel, when divested of its multitudinous wrappings, revealed a complete set of church vestments of exceeding richness, heavily embroidered in gold on white corded silk of finest quality, the design of the work being remarkably chaste and artistic, the whole forming a gift of very costly character. They were worn for the first time by the celebrant at midnight mass. The rev. father announced to the congregation the distinguished favor that had been conferred on the parish, and exhorted them that they should ever hold in grateful remembrance the generous donors, whose thoughtful kindness had prompted them to supplement the munificent gift of a costly bell by this rich and beautiful set of vestments.

SEVERE HEADACHE CURED.

Dear Sirs,—Being troubled with a severe headache, I was advised by a friend to try Laxa-Liver Pills. I only used half a bottle, and have not since suffered from the complaint. They seem to be a perfect cure.

MRS. JOHN TOMLINSON,
Hamilton, Ont.

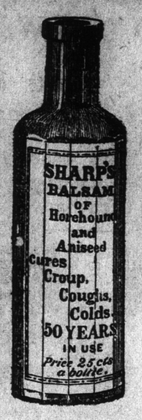
ALBERT LODGE, No. 34, F. & A. M.

The officers were installed on Tuesday evening as follows:

Capt. Robt. White, W. M.
Capt. Geo. M. Reid, S. W.
Capt. H. V. Wilbur, J. W.
Dr. S. C. Murray, P. M., Chap.
W. A. Trueman, P. M., Secty.
Jas. W. Fullerton, Treas.
J. H. McPherson, S. D.
John C. Calhoun, J. D.
Capt. A. O. Copp, S. S.
W. M. Barbour, J. S.
J. L. Richardson, D. of C.
R. L. Myles, I. G.
J. W. McLeod, I. P. M., Tyler.

A little whiting dissolved in the boiling water in which the silver is cleansed daily, will remove all grease and dulness, and make the weekly polishing almost unnecessary. They should be well dried and rubbed afterwards.

SCHOOL SCRIBBLER



GIVEN AWAY WITH EACH BOTTLE PURCHASED.

KING PREMPEH'S DOINGS.

The Bishop of Sierra Leone (formerly Canon Taylor Smith), who accompanied the recent Ashanti expedition as chaplain, is now at home, and has been making some interesting statements regarding the doings of King Prempeh:

At Coomassie he came to a grove of silk cotton trees, which were the fetish of that country, and there among the trees he saw the remains of hundreds of people who had been executed to please the king and the people. He believed it would be within the mark if he said he saw thousands of bodies lying there.

Benin is not more than thirty miles from where steamers pass, and yet there this year "they crucified and mutilated men, women and children."

The sacred burying place of the kings of Coomassie was their treasure-house where the gold dust was preserved, and the bishop tells that every three months the king had to visit this burying place of his ancestors, and then twenty slaves were sacrificed. A skewer was pushed through their cheeks, so as to hold their tongues down, lest they should repeat the king's oath and be set free. Then, at a given signal from the king, their heads were struck off from behind and fell into a brass basin. This basin, the bishop says, is now in London.

King Prempeh, who was only twenty-four years of age, and who had revelled in all this blood-spilling, is, the bishop says, now one of his congregation in Sierra Leone, and only shortly before he left he taught him at his own request the Lord's prayer. "This man used, as a nightly amusement, to send for a slave and have her killed before him. Then, whilst his numerous wives gathered round him and flattered him by telling of his greatness, he warmed his feet in his victim's blood."

STATISTICS ON PATENTS.

Compiled from the commisioner's report for 1898 by Messrs. Marion & Marion, solicitors of patents and experts, Temple building, Montreal. In 1896 there were received in the United States patent office 42,077 applications for patents, 1,828 applications for designs, 77 applications for re-issues, 2,271 caveats, 2,005 applications for registration of trade marks, 59 applications for registration of labels, and 36 applications for prints. There were 23,312 patents granted, including designs, 61 patents re-issued, 1,813 trade marks registered, and one label and 32 prints. The number of patents which expired was 12,133. The number of patents which were by operation of the law forfeited for non-payment of the final fees was 4,736. The total expenditures were $1,113,413.71. The receipts over expenditures were $210,645.13, and the total balance to the credit of the patent office in the treasury of the United States amounts to $4,718,639.47.

The Canadian patent office has recently granted the following patents to Canadian inventors:

58,213—A. Rainville et al, Montreal, fire escape.
58,331—J. B. I. Prefontaine, South Durham, shoe sole.
58,403—O. C. Beloin, East Providence, folding table.
58,436—A. Pageau et al, Montreal, smoke consumer.

HEART BEATS IN SLEEP.

Why one takes cold easily lying down with his clothes on and why the necessity of cover during sleep is because nature takes the time when one is lying down to give the heart rest and that organ consequently makes ten strokes less per minute than when one is an upright posture. Multiply this by 60 minutes and it is 600 strokes. Therefore, in eight hours spent in lying down the heart is saved nearly 5,000 strokes, and as the heart pumps six ounces of blood with each stroke it lifts 30,000 ounces less of blood in a night of eight hours spent in bed than when one is in an upright position. As the blood flows so much more slowly through the veins when one is lying down, one must supply with extra covering the warmth usually furnished by circulation.

INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

BOMBAY, Dec. 30.—The Indian National Congress came to a conclusion today amid enthusiasm and cheers for the Queen Empress. Resolutions were adopted thanking the people of the United Kingdom, the British colonies, and the United States for generous aid during the famine. It was decided to erect, at the cost of a thousand pounds, a memorial of gratitude in London.

THINKS THEY CAN'T COUNT.

(Moncton Transcript.)

Whatever, too, has been the St. John Globe's observation, this journal's has taught it that alleged scandals involving millions are not so easily seized by the public mind as petty scandals involving only a few hundreds. Millions are beyond the grasp of practical imagination of the electors—the petty alleged scandal is much more dangerous.

Ferry's SEEDS

grow paying crops because they're fresh and always the best. For sale everywhere. Refuse substitutes. Stick to Ferry's Seeds and prosper. 1898 Seed Annual free. Write for it.

D. M. FERRY & CO., Windsor, Ont.