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DAILY HERALD
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The Herald just now is suffering inconvenience from the partial break down of its machinery, which accounts for the lack of reading matter presented. By tomorrow we hope to get over the difficulty.

CHIEF JUSTICE RETIRES.

Sir Robert Linton Weatherbee, chief justice of Nova Scotia, who will be seventy-one years old next month, has retired from that position, taking his full superannuation allowance. Sir Robert is five years younger than the chief justice of this province, who declares that he has no intention of retiring.

Chief Justice Weatherbee is a native of Bedouque, P. E. Island, a graduate of Acadia College and when at the bar of Nova Scotia was one of its leaders. He was raised to the Supreme Court bench in 1878, being then 42 years old, and was made chief justice some five years ago, on the retirement of Hon. James MacDonald.

There is some speculation as to Chief Justice Weatherbee's successor. In some quarters it is stated that Judge Drysdale, appointed to the bench last week, will be the lucky man, and that Hon. F. A. Lawrence M. P., for Colchester, or Mr. W. E. Roscoe of Kentville, will receive the vacant seat on the bench.

The appointment of Judge Drysdale leaves the position of attorney general of Nova Scotia vacant, and it is considered probable that Hon. W. T. P. of Amherst, the present commissioner of works and mines, will succeed to the position, and that Hon. B. F. Pearson, a member of the government without portfolio, will take charge of Mr. Pines' present department.

CURRENT COMMENT.

The proposed establishment of a chair of agricultural chemistry at the University of New Brunswick, is a forward move that will be appreciated by the friends of that institution.

The local government which has done so much to promote the agricultural interests of the Province is asking authority from the legislature to expend \$25,000 for the importation of horses and sheep.

Dr. Stockton is the eighth member of Parliament who has died since the session opened. The other three members of the Commons are: Messrs. Cochrane, Martin and C. Laurier. The members of the Senate were: Senators Kerr, Dobson, Casgrain and Hingston.

The Herald is informed on very excellent authority, that Mr. Morrissey M. P., was not always a Liberal. He came over from the Conservatives with the disruption in Northumberland a few years ago, when the late Hon. Peter Mitchell made chaos in the politics of that constituency and Mr. Morrissey was known as a "Mitchell Liberal." From his present close association with the Conservatives in the legislature we presume that the genial member for Northumberland would not object to the cognomen of "a Hazen Liberal."

Rev. J. D. Freeman, who on Sunday announced his resignation of the pastorate of the Bloor Street Baptist Church, Toronto, and intends, it is said, to remove to the United States, was a former pastor of the Brunswick Street Baptist Church in this city, immediately preceding Rev. J. H. MacDonald. He is a native of Mill Village, Queens Co., N. S., and a preacher and pastor of great energy and capacity. The change he is giving up at Toronto is one of the leading Baptist churches in that city.

Mr. Edward Brown, the leader of the local Liberals in Manitoba, defeated at Portage la Prairie in the recent provincial elections, is evidently much incensed at his constituency for rejecting him. He is a large property owner there and desiring to leave, is offering for sale absolutely all his Portage property and western farm lands, asking \$1,000,000 for them. Mr. Brown is

by far the largest property owner in Portage la Prairie, and his sudden decision has created more or less of a real estate panic. Prices have dropped to less than half what was asked.

Birds and Kites.

No bird so far as known records show, has ever alighted on a kite or attacked one. While a scientist was flying a train of five kites some years ago a large silver tipped eagle came suddenly out of the higher air and swooped round and round the first kite, looking against the sunset sky like a huge silver ball. As the train of kites was pulled in the eagle followed, veering one kite and then another, seeming uncertain just what to do. In a few minutes, when he seemed to have decided that they were not good to eat and he knew nothing about them, anyway, he indignantly flew off and was lost to view. While the scientist's kites were high in the air one March flock of geese flying in the wedge flew over. They invariably stopped, broke up, hovered above the queer object and at last slowly reformed and flew away. While the larger birds all come from heights above the kite, the small birds of the air will alight on the string holding the kite and sway to and fro.

Mysterious Glass Balls.

According to a foreign correspondent of the geological survey at Washington, among the most interesting features of the small island of Billiton, between Sumatra and Borneo, an island long famous for its rich tin mines, controlled by the Dutch government, are the "glass balls of Billiton," found among the tin ore deposits. These natural glass balls are round, with grooved surfaces. Similar phenomena are occasionally found in Borneo and Java as well as in Australia. The correspondent quoted thinks they cannot be artificial, and there are no volcanoes near enough to support the theory that they are volcanic bombs. Besides, it is claimed, the glassy rocks produced by the nearest volcanoes are quite different in their nature from the material of the balls. It is suspected that the mysterious objects were ejected ages ago from the volcanoes of the moon and afterward fell upon the earth.

"Caracul"—Its Etymology.

I have often been asked for the etymology of "caracul," which is a term now largely used by furriers to denote a variety of the fur called astrakhan. The new English dictionary does not contain caracul, but it has caracul, which is liable to be confused with it, though really quite a different word. The caracul is an animal, but caracul, like the nearly synonymous term, astrakhan, is the name of a place—Kara Kul—i. e., the Black lake, near Bokhara, which has long been celebrated for its output of furs. The earliest reference I can find to it in English is in Matthew Arnold's "Sohrab and Rustum."

And on his head he set his sheepskin cap, Black, glossy, curled, the fleece of Kara Kul.

—London Notes and Queries.

Living in the Electric Light.

Writing to a friend in the country, a New York merchant says: "I live in the electric light. I leave my home at 7 o'clock, after dressing and taking my breakfast by electric light. Then I go to the subway, one block distant, and ride to within a block of my office. There I work all day by electric light and go home again by the subway and spend the evening in the glare of the incandescent lamp. The weather conditions make no difference, because my flat and my office belong to the semidark kind. Sometimes I wonder what I would do without electric light, and sometimes I ask myself when I yawn for a little sunlight, is the new light really a blessing?"

John Stuart Mill.

The genius of this great Englishman was such that before he was twenty he was recognized as the champion and future leader of a powerful school of philosophy and politics. John Stuart Mill is said to have studied Greek at the age of three and at fourteen had begun logic and political economy. The writings and doctrines of this master mind were and are still read and preached not only in this country, but throughout the world. John Stuart Mill stands out prominently among nineteenth century thinkers.—London Mail.

Hardened.

"Listen to this, Maria," said Mr. Stubb as he unfolded his scientific paper. "This article states that in some of the old Roman prisons that have been unearthed they found the petrified remains of the prisoners." "Gracious, John!" replied Mrs. Stubb, with a smile. "I suppose you would call them hardened criminals."

But He Was Cured.

"I think I'll have to take treatment for the forgetting habit. From whom did you take your treatment that was so satisfactory and successful in improving your memory?"

"From—ah, from—oh, I forgot his name, but wait a minute, and I'll get one of his cards out of my desk."—Exchange.

Supremely Exasperating.

"Don't you think Mrs. Spurrell has an awful temper?" "She has, but even you blame the poor woman? She has a husband who just absolutely won't get mad at all!"

FEW CRACK BILLIARDISTS.

Schaefer Deserves Most Credit For Improving the Game.

The fact that very few first class billiardists have ever been developed is one of the strange features of the game. Vignaux, Schaefer and Slosson have been champions more than thirty years, the only others developed during all this time being Ives, Hoppe and Sutton, a most remarkable showing, not to be paralleled in any other branch of sport.

Of all the experts Schaefer deserves most credit for the development of the game to its present high standard. He always has been anxious and willing to aid in the development of youngsters, and Ives, Hoppe, Morningstar and Sutton all were his pupils. The balk line nurse, the feature of play responsible for all high runs, however, is the invention of Sutton, and when as a shortstop he first sprung it he occasioned great surprise.

Schaefer is the father of all the rules under which billiards are played. At various times he has surmounted by his inventive genius the many barriers imposed on experts to decrease their speed and necessitated the making of new restrictions, for the other experts could all take advantage of the new discoveries as soon as they came to know them, and almost unending runs were the result.

In a championship contest between Jake and Ives the latter sat down with 14 to go, and Schaefer came to bat with 506 to go. The largest run ever made up to that time had been 288, and the Wizard seemed to have but little show to win. His great inventive genius came to the rescue, however, and Schaefer ran the game out. This was the only time the anchor nurse was allowed in a match game, for Ives after it was discovered could play it as well as Schaefer, and as it made the game too easy it was immediately barred.

Incidental to the above game, Frank White, a well known Chicago sport, won a most remarkable bet from Leo Mayer, the well known bookmaker. As Schaefer walked up to the table in the final inning White turned around to Mayer, who was making books on the contest, and said, "What are the odds now, Leo?" "One hundred to 1," said Mayer. "I'll bet you \$10," said White. "Done," said Leo. And when the game was over Leo had to settle with the wise Mr. White, who, a billiard player himself, knew that a game was never over until the last point was made.—Washington Post.

Painting Barrels.

Did you ever see a Standard Oil man paint a barrel? No? It is a revelation. Tricks in all trades. The oil barrels, as every well informed man should know (Standard Oil being the biggest thump in the world), are blue as to bilge and bulge and white as to heads. The completed barrel is rolled into the shop by thousands. A man steps up with a brush of white paint and with three swipes executes a design upon the head, then spins the barrel along. It is caught by another man with a brush deeply dipped in blue paint. He takes the rim between his thumb and fingers, gives it a whirl and while that barrel is spinning runs his brush up and down. In less than three seconds that barrel is all blue. Then as it spins along the man with the white paints keeps it over and with three more swipes makes the other head white. Talk about your bowling alleys!—New York Press.

Blind Football Fans.

When the 200 inmates of Henshaw's Blind asylum, Manchester, sat down to tea the other evening an officer read out to them the announcement in the Daily Mail of a special edition for the blind. There was a burst of applause when the reading was over, followed by a buzz of animated discussion.

"It is surprising," said Mr. M. H. Illingworth, the governor, "what a keen interest the blind take in field sports. They follow the game of football in detail."

"Have you ever been to a football match?" he asked a blind youth.

"Yes," he replied.

"And you know the players?"

"Yes, I know them all and everything that is going on."—London Mail.

Single and Plural S Germans.

A journalist in Berlin has been exercising his ingenuity in attempts to explain the meaning of the letter S which appears with more or less frequency after the names of German military officers in the records kept at the ministry of war and in the kaiser's military cabinet. He has come to the following conclusions: One S after an officer's name means that this particular officer "sauff" (drinks); SS means that he "sauff stark" (drinks hard); SSS denotes that he "sauff sehr stark" (drinks very hard); SSSS means that he "sauff sehr schnapps" (drinks very hard schnapps); finally, SSSSS means that the "schnapps" is "schlecht" (bad). Any officer with five S's is summarily dismissed by the kaiser.

A Swell Bootblack.

A bootblack wearing a diamond stud and whose linen is as spotless as that worn by those whose shoes he shines is one of the fixtures of a government building in this city. He was highly

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insured when a passing stranger, seeing his "kit," asked him to "polish 'em up." In a loud voice the son of Italy gave the well intentioned offender to understand that he "shined only by contract." This is a fact, and when at the end of each month he collects his "fees" the bootblack's pile in profits amounts to as much as the salaries of some of the men who employ him and is really in excess of that paid to many. —Philadelphia Record.

The Streets of Paris.
Many of the streets of Paris are lined with trees. If a tree dies another one of the same kind, age and size is brought from the state forests and put in its place. The cost is something tremendous, but Paris is the most beautiful of modern cities.

Tallest Lighthouse.
The tallest lighthouse on British coasts is the Skerryvore, off Argyllshire. It is 140 feet high. It contains 4,208 tons of masonry and cost £90,208.

Weddings in Italy.
In Italy, Sunday is usually selected for the marriage of those persons who have never been married before. Widows, however, in accordance with an old custom, usually choose Saturday.

Norwegian Honesty.
As an example of Norwegian honesty Lord Edward Spencer-Churchill in a lecture told a story of how he and his friends left a silver spoon in one of the little station houses by mistake. Two years afterward when they passed by the house again the silver spoon was brought to them.

CAN YOU READ THIS?

"Persons having normal vision will be able to read this print at a distance of 14 inches from the eye with ease and comfort; also will be able to read it with each eye separately. If unable to do so, your eyes are defective and should have immediate attention. When the eye becomes tired from reading or sewing, or if the letters look blurred and run together, it is a sure indication that glasses are needed. The lenses sold in the cheap goods are of unusual density and have superlatively formed surfaces. Continued use of these poorer lenses will result in positive injury from the constant strain upon the muscles of accommodation to supply the defects in the glass."

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