THE EVENING TIMES.

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A. M. BELDING, Editor.

TOGO'S VICTORY

"If I am victorious, I shall inform you. If I am vanquished, Togo will inform you," Admiral Rojestvensky is reported to have said when his fleet entered eastern waters.

Togo has been heard from. For some days his exact whereabouts was unknown to the world, but the thunder of his guns has answered the query, and shown that the Nelson of the far east was where his ships could do the most and best work. He had, by means of swift vessels kept in touch with the Russians and was able to concentrate his fleet and strike at the right moment.

Once more the superiority of the Japanese navy has been demonstrated, and the hopes of Russia destroyed along with their ships. So much had been confidently asserted by St. Petersburg about what Rojestvensky would do that the public mind was perhaps somewhat in doubt as to the result of the meeting of the fleets, for as usual the Japanese were extremely reticent, and permitted the enemy to do the talking. But with the defeat and dispersion of the Russian fleet the remark made by this paper after Mukden is further emphasised—that the supremacy of Russia in the far east has passed and the map must be recast. The hope that the Japanese fleet might be destroyed, and a way opened for the transport of Russian soldiers by sea as well as over the trans-Siberian railway to Manchuria can no longer be entertained. It would be difficult indeed to overestimate the effect of this victory, not only upon the fortunes of Russia in the east, but upon the future of eastern Asia and in the councils of Europe and America.

THE PEOPLE TO BLAME

The attitude of society towards that portion of it which tends toward the reformatory and the jail needs to be changed. People go complacently about their business, paying little attention to what is transpiring in dark corners where crime is brooding, until a tanyard gang or a Josie Carr startles them into a sense of the fact that there is something wrong. Then they cry out for the punishment of the guilty. St. John has its "tanyard gang" or several of them, and Toronto apparently has worse, since there the criminals are little girls. Note this statement from a Toronto paper:—

"According to the confession made by Ethel Titus, a ten-year-old girl arrested for bicycle stealing, Josephine Carr, the murderess of the Murray baby, was a member of a band of young girls who live about the neighborhood of lower Jarvis street and who make a practice of stealing bicycles and baby carriages. Josephine, the Titus girl says, over a week ago wanted the latter to go in with her in stealing a baby carriage with a live baby in it. The Titus girl refused. She confessed that there were six or seven little girls who were engaged in this particular kind of theft, and gave the police information where four stolen wheels could be recovered."

Such a state of affairs reflects upon a whole community. There is something radically wrong with a social system that renders such a condition possible. The fault does not lie with the police, nor with any of those in authority. The responsibility rests upon the people as a whole, and they must face the responsibility before any change will be possible.

WHITNEY'S FIRST SESSION

The Ontario legislature has been prorogued, and the general verdict is that the Whitney government has come through its first session with credit to itself and benefit to the province. The fact appears to have caused surprise in some quarters, though the reasons given do not seem to be adequate. That the Conservatives had not been in power in Ontario for more than a generation was not a reason for doubt of their ability to rule when the opportunity was offered. There is no divine right of party, and one of the lessons of democratic history is that neither party possesses all the virtues or all the ability. Mr. Whitney and his colleagues are probably equal in natural ability to the leaders of the Liberal party, and they are quite as familiar with public affairs, except in the matter of administration, which, after all, under our institutions, is largely one of routine. Given a group of intelligent men, with good business capacity and certain well defined lines of policy, and they will make a good administrative record.

The Whitney government in its first legislative session amended and improved the license law, to give it better enforcement; declared its opposition to indiscriminate railway subsidies, and perpetual franchises to electric railways; amended the ballot act, in the interest of electoral purity; adopted legislation strengthening the University of Toronto, and providing for a great public hospital; and dealt with many minor matters. The Toronto News, in reviewing the work of the session, says there is general satisfaction with the government's policy and legislation, and that the members have "shown an unexpected reserve of strength, courage and resource." Therefore it concludes:—"But in any event we have got rid of the notion that only the Liberal party can govern Ontario, and in this we have a guarantee of sounder electoral methods and a great contribution to the sanity of our politics and the independence of the electorate."

THE SCOURGE OF INDIA

The correspondent in India of the London Lancet tells a terrible story of the mortality caused by the plague. The report says:

"For the week ending April 22 there were 54,602 deaths, compared with 51,786 during the preceding week. The mortality during the present year promises to exceed the record, which stands as follows:—Total deaths for 1901, 273,679; 1902, 577,427; 1903, 851,263; 1904, 1,022,299, and to April 22, 1905, 630,968.

It is added that these figures probably do not tell the whole story. The plague is not confined to one district but is widely prevalent. Efforts to prevent its ravages have been largely unavailing. The conditions of life in India, and the great density of population, make it difficult either to take effective precautionary measures in advance or to check the mortality when the disease has broken out in a community. To the western mind there is somthing appalling in the statement that last year more than a million people fell victims to the plague. Science has vainly sought a remedy, and the heroic sacrifices by devoted doctors and nurses have been unavailing. Death stalks abroad in hideous guise, claiming his victims by the thousand. The problem is the most serious of any that confronts the government of India.

COLLEGE RESIDENCE

Prof. George H. Locke, of the University of Chicago, has added his views to the general discussion on college residences, raised in connection with the changes and improvements in the University of Toronto. Prof. Locke writes to a friend in Toronto:-

"It is sensible and business like. Your advocacy of residences for the students is wise, and is endorsed by all persons who have had to do with university and college life. The first building put up in connection with the University of Chicago was a residence for students. We have now seven residences or houses for men and four for women; we are proposing now to build more, as we find this is the best way of promoting real college life. Mr. Whitney was right when he said that education was much more than instruction."

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States has endorsed the collection of a permanent fund of $10,000,000, the income from which is to be expended in annuties for aged preachers. A despatch says:—

"The committee now has a permanent fund of nearly $1,650,000. The remainder is to be raised by collections, gifts and an insurance scheme by which a preacher may, by paying about $24 a year for thirty years, draw an annuity of $500. Before the thirty years have elapsed, it is estimated the permanent fund will be sufficient to increase the annuity to $10,000,000."

Our Dumb Animals, in the May issue, attacks President Roosevelt because of his bear hunt. It intimates that he shot a bear which had been released with only thirty minutes' start of the hunters, and points out if he had done this in Massachusetts he would be subject to a heavy fine. It criticises the killing of coyotes and rabbits, and even blames the president for organizing the Rough Riders in the Spanish War. The article has created quite a sensation in Washington, and the magazine has been thrown out of the schools.

A comparison of results of railway accidents in England and the United States enables the London Daily Telegraph to make this ironical observation: — "Our railways have much to learn from America. Last year all of them together only killed five passengers. In three months of last year the United States railways killed 228 passengers and injured 2,154. We are so slow."

"I forecasted not long ago, and I still believe that Winnipeg will, within ten years, be as large a city as Toronto. I also think that within a quarter of a century the capital of Manitoba will be the largest city in Canada."—Thomas Greenway, M.P.

JOE JEFFERSON STORY

(James Huneker, in The World's Work)

I saw Joseph Jefferson during the first week of his "Rivals" revival in 1880 at the Arch Street Theatre. Ten years later, when I knew him personally, I found him off the stage as he was on——a charming companion. The only example of his dry humor that I can now recall was the result of a slight incident which took place in Union Square before a store where the actor occasionally stopped to purchase painting materials. I was at his elbow as he alighted from his carriage and as I saluted him I said: "Buying paint for the country, Mr. Jefferson?" He halted, and in those shrewd old eyes—Celtic eyes—was just the ghost of a twinkle. "Better paint barns than the town, young man!" and he went into the shop for his tubes, brushes and canvas. It was characteristic of Joseph Jefferson.

ST. JOHN, N.B., May 29th, 1905.

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BANDIT CAPTURED

Man Who Held Up Northern Palific Train is Now in the Toils.

St. Paul, Minn., May 28—Express messenger Laub, and Engineer Wilson today received $1,000 each for capturing a man who held up the eastbound north coast limited train last midnight on the Northren Pacific railroad near Bearmouth (Mont.) This is the third hold-up of the same train near Bearmouth.

General Manager H. J. Horn, of the Northern Pacific today received the details of the hold-up as follows:

"Northern Pacific north coast limited train was held up about midnight two miles east of Bearmouth by one man. After ordering the express messenger out of the car the robber, who had 25 pounds of dynamite, blew the safe open in the express car, shattering the side of the car and blowing the door off the safe. After the explosion the robber made Wilson and Laub crawl into the car ahead of him. As soon as they were inside the bandit forced Engineer Wilson to strike a match by the light of which Wilson saw Laub ready to hit the robber with a piece of broken car. Wilson immediately blew out the light and the express messenger struck the robber and knocked him down.

"The robber was bound and taken to Drummond, where he was turned over to the county authorities. The express car was not much damaged, and it went through on the run. No valuables were taken and passengers were not disturbed."

A LARGE TROUT, INDEED

And It Put Up a Stiff Fight Before Being Landed.

(Anaconda Standard)

One of the largest bull trout caught this season was landed on the banks of the Missoula River west of town, this morning by Robert Gries. The fish weighed 8½ pounds when dressed and measured two feet from tip to tip. The fish was a gamey one and was landed after a plucky fight of several minutes duration.

Young Gries had been fishing in company with Mr. Palsgrove for some time and had been unable to catch anything but "shiners." Finally he fixed up a plain hook and put a shiner on it. He made a cast and got a strike from the bull trout as soon as the shiner struck the water. He did not know that he had got a fish on his hook but thought he had struck a snag. With all of his endeavors he could not pull in his line. Finally the trout shot away into the water and unwound all the line from the reel. The hook then broke and the prize had been lost. Gries pulled in his line, and undismayed, he put on another hook and attached another small fish.

The second time Gries made a cast a big bull trout immediately grabbed for the bait and got fastened to the end of the line. This time a hard fight ensued, during which time Gries slowly pulled in his line. When the trout had been pulled almost to the shore one of the men took a shot at him with a rifle and succeeded in killing him. The fellow was then landed and dressed. While dressing him the men were lamenting the fact that they had lost the first one, when they discovered their first hook in the mouth of the fish they had caught.

WOODSTOCK

Woodstock, N. B., May 27.—(Special)—This afternoon, before Magistrate Dibblee, John Hanson was tried for assault upon little Alice Dunn, the eight year old daughter of an engineer employed upon the C. P. R. T. C. L. Ketchum was counsel for the prisoner. The child, her parents, Master Fenwick Nicholson, Guy McLean and Carleton Tilley gave evidence.

The prisoner in reply to the magistrate, said he had no statement to make and his honor remanded Hanson to jail to await trial at the high court, which meets the second Tuesday in July.

The evidence showed that shortly after supper on May 8th the child and two other little girls were near the Methodist cemetery where the accused was working. The children had made some wires for the holding of flowers planted on graves. They offered the wires for sale to Hanson. It is said he asked the child to come into the graveyard and he would give her the money and requested the other children to remain where they were.

The little girl was taken into the tool house in the graveyard. The child protested, screamed and slipped away from him and made her escape to where the other children were. He followed her some distance, before he returned to his work.

The magistrate said a man is innocent of a crime until he is proved guilty, but the evidence was so strong that he would remand Hanson till the session of the high court.

A WHISKERLESS PROFESSION

(New York Globe)

The campaign of the secretary of the Iowa Board of Health against whiskers among members of the medical profession is an effort in behalf of consistency. What profits it for a doctor to sterilize his finger nails, his hands, his instruments, the room in which he operates, if millions of bacilli roost unmolested in a capillary facial forest? The danger is not an imaginary one. Parodying Edward Lear, we may exclaim:

"There was an old man with a beard
Who said it was just as I feared,
Two millions of germs,
With tails like the worms,
Have all made their nests in my beard."

The doctor of the old school was bearded like a sheik. He milked when ruminating over symptoms. The adornment was the sign and symbol of his profession. Time was when young Sawbones, who stood at the head of his class, but was compelled to go into the world whiskerless, beheld the patients flocking to a dullard classmate, who had learned nothing, but looked wise with a thached physiognomy. But this prejudice of the populace has happily passed. The doctor of the new school will not rain infection on his patient as he applies the stethoscope. Doubtless the next thing he will be asked to do is to tonsure. Then suspicion will fall on his eyebrow. Can it be—but perish the thought!—that some of Mr. Rockefeller's "tainted money" is behind this anti-hair movement?

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