

Local and Other Items.

CRUADERS.—Meeting of Company A. on Monday evening at 6.30. Mr. Foote will be present.

VICTORIA DIVISION.—Delegates to Grand Division will report (this Monday) evening.

ANOTHER GOLD MINE.—The Campbellton, N. B., Telephone says: Rumor has it that a rich mineral containing gold has been found near Bathurst and that a six mile square lease has been obtained by a gentleman who will prospect and operate it.

P. E. I. COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.—We are pleased to announce that Mr. William Millman, of Alberton, after a most satisfactory business course at this college, during which he showed what may be accomplished by diligence and perseverance, secured his diploma. Mr. Millman, by his exemplary conduct and ability, won the respect and esteem of all his fellow-students, and we feel assured that he will succeed to a remarkable degree in his chosen profession. He carries with him the best wishes of the Principal and students of the college.

MOTOR CARS IN JAPAN.—Another sign of the constant process of Occidentalisation (to coin a word) that is going on in Japan, was afforded yesterday afternoon, when a motor carriage, propelled by petroleum, and occupied by about half a dozen Europeans—Frenchmen apparently—came careering swiftly alongside the Hibaya parade ground in Tokio. As a further sign of the times it may be added that the appearance of the new-fangled vehicle drew little if any notice from the passers by.—Japan Weekly Times.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—Commenting upon The London Spectator's statement that if the United States were attacked by a great continental coalition Britain would beat her side in 24 hours, The New York Commercial Advertiser says:—"This two-sided fact—for the reverse is no less true—is the largest in current history. It shapes the course of world events, dominates the history of Europe and the United States and controls the destinies of America, Asia and Africa. It excludes continental intervention in American concerns and limits continental invasion of British Imperial rights. It shields the American Republic more than the Monroe doctrine, and it is a surer safeguard of British Commercial freedom than sea power. It is the most solid guaranty of the balance of power and the most firm foundation of the Pax Britannicum."

We have the best crockery store in the city. A very nice new lot of dinner sets, tea sets, chamber sets, cheaper than can be bought anywhere on P. E. Island.—W. P. Colwill.

The following illustration of a child's spelling lesson and her apt conclusion in regard to the orthography of the English language is taken from the New York Times:

"Spell toes," said the mother, who was teaching her little daughter, 7 years old, to spell.

"T-o-z-e," answered the child.

"No, dear, that's not right. T-o-e-s spells toes."

"But it sounds like t-o-z-e."

"I know it, but you cannot go by the sound."

Then, in order to enforce the proposition, the mother called upon her daughter to spell froze.

"F-r-o-e-s," said the child.

"No; you're wrong again. This time we do use the z and spell the word f-r-o-z-e."

"Huh!" exclaimed the child.

"Now spell rose," said the mother.

The child hesitated. Finally she said, "I don't know whether to say r-o-z-e or r-o-e-s."

"Spell it r-o-s-e," said the mother, "though there is another word pronounced just like it that's spelled r-o-e-s. That word is the name of the spawn of fishes."

The child looked perplexed.

"Just one word more," said the mother. "Tell me how you spell blows."

"Well," said the little girl, who had had quite enough nonsense, as she viewed it, from her mother and had suddenly made up her mind to pay back in kind, "I spell it three ways. I spell it b-l-o-s-s-e for breakfast, b-l-o-e-s for dinner and b-l-o-z-e for supper."

"I spell it b-l-o-w-s," said the mother.

The child was silent for a minute as if wrapped in thought; then, looking up, she solemnly remarked, "I think, mamma, that the English language was made for persons very, very well educated."

Wawling, Wowing, Caterwauling.

The word "wawling" and its variants "wewling" and "wowing" are fairly common in modern folk speech. Up here in Northumberland we have it "wawling;" in Bucks and Oxon I have heard both "wawling" and "wowing" applied to the plaintive or wailing cry of little children. When the "English Dialect Dictionary" extends to "W," Professor Wright will no doubt show the range and nuances of the term, as he has already done with "bell" and "belling." Shakespeare makes use of "wawl" once at least. See "Lear," IV., vi., in which the aged king tells Gloucester:

Thou know'st the first time that we smell the air
We wawl and cry.

—Notes and Queries.

Some Descriptive Writing.

They were beaten, hopelessly beaten. Fate, cruel fate, had decreed for them a death as early as it was ignominious. Without so much as a word, a sigh, a whisper of agony or a breath of resistance they had been consigned to their doom. Even now, naught left of them but the pale white of despair, were they being poured over the lemon meringue pie. They were beaten, hopelessly beaten. It is eggs that we are talking about.—New York World.

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