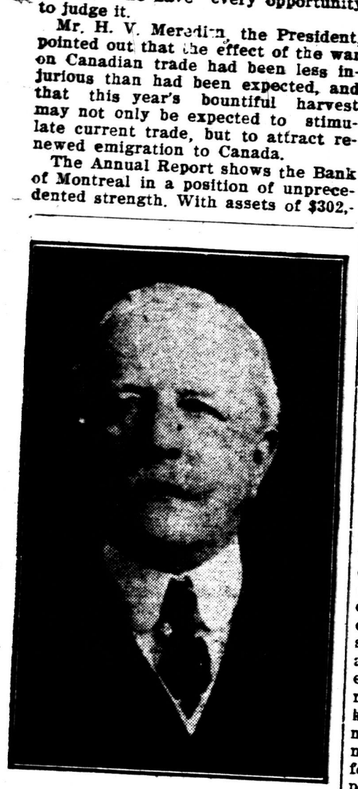
BANK OF MONTREAL

Ninety-Eighth Annual Report Shows Bank in Very Strong Position.

Exceptional interest attaches this year to the Annual Report of Canada's leading Bank, and the addresses delivered at the Annual Meeting by the President and the General Manager. They afford an insight into the financial consequences of a year of war on the country generally, and into the outlook for the future, as interpreted by men who have every opportunity to judge it.

Mr. H. V. Meredith, the President, pointed out that the effect of the war on Canadian trade had been less injurious than had been expected, and that this year's bountiful harvest may not only be expected to stimulate current trade, but to attract renewed emigration to Canada.

The Annual Report shows the Bank of Montreal in a position of unprecedented strength. With assets of $302,-



MR. H. V. MEREDITH,
President of Bank of Montreal, who Presided at the 58th Annual Meeting held on Monday, Dec. 6th.

980,554—and increase for the year of $38,800,138—it takes rank with the most powerful banking institutions in the world. Of this enormous sum no less than $170,007,568 is in cash and liquid assets. This is over 64 per cent. of the Bank's total public liabilities—a ratio whose significance will be better understood when it is compared with 55.4 per cent. last year, and a little less than 50 per cent. (considered a high proportion in normal times) in 1913.

While holding so large a proportion of the Bank's assets in liquid form does not tend to large profits, it is a source of great strength not only to the Bank, but to the whole of Canada, in these trying and difficult times.

The profits for the year, however, were most gratifying. Amounting to $2,106,631, they provided for the usual quarterly dividends and two 1 per cent. bonuses on the Capital of $16,-000,000, the War Tax on Bank note circulation, $127,347, and left over $60,000 to be added to the Profit and Loss Account, bringing the balance of the latter up to $1,293,952. This, of

SIR FREDERICK WILLIAMS-TAYLOR.
General Manager, Bank of Montreal.

course, is in addition to the Rest Account of $16,000,000—equal to the capital.

Owing to the reduced volume of commercial business in the country, the current loans dropped from $108,-845,332 in 1914 to $99,078,,506. Loans to municipalities, on the other hand, show an increase of over two millions, reaching the figure of $11,203,-472.

One of the most striking and important features of the Report is the remarkable increase in Deposits. Those bearing no interest have increased during the year from $42,689,031 to $75,745,729, while interest bearing deposits have grown to $160,277,083—a total increase of $38,800,138. Though this is partly accounted for by special transactions, it must be regarded as highly satisfactory, and an especial mark of public confidence.

In reviewing the year the president laid special stress on the record harvest in the west, where a greatly increased area under cultivation has given the highest average yfeld in the history of the country. The estimated value of the grain crop of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan he placed at four hundred million dollars—a sum which could be depended upon to liquidate much indebtedness and stimulate current trade.

Referring to the remarkable change in Canada's position, from a debtor to a creditor nation, Mr. Meredith said:

"In the seven months ending October 31st, 1913, the value of exports of Canadian products was $245,550,000, and in the same period of 1914 was $226,757,000, while this year in those seven months we have exported Canadian products of the value of $326,-430,000, or $100,000,000 more than last year, and the great crop surplus has still to go forward.

"Comparing the foreign trade of Canada for the seven-months period ending with October, imports have declined from $390,544,000 in 1913 to $353,107,000 in 1915, while exports of domestic products, as I have said, have risen from $245,550,000 to $326,-430,000, an adverse balance of $145,-000,000 being converted into a favorable balance of $73,323,000, or a betterment in respect of foreign trade of no less than $218,000,000 within the short space of two years."

Taking a prudentially optimistic view of the future, Mr. Meredith said:

"The position of Canada is a highly favored one, with an assured future of growth, development and general prosperity. At present, however, we live in the shadow of the great war, to which all else must be subservient. What its duration will be, and the position in which its termination will find us can be matter of the merest conjecture. The vast armies now engaged in the struggle cannot be kept in the field indefinitely. The financial factor is daily assuming increased importance, and in this respect the advantage is unquestionably with Great Britain and her allies.

"After the war a readjustment of trade conditions is to be expected. The flood of wealth which has attended the export of munitions and war supplies must of necessity be largely curtailed, and a new set of problems will have to be faced. As I have said on former occasions when I have had the pleasure of addressing you, if economy be exercised to meet the increased burden of taxation, of which we must bear our share, and the production of exportable articles increased to the utmost extent, to protect our gold supply and minimize our borrowings, and if we keep strong in working capital, then no matter what difficulties the future may have in store for us, we can look forward to them with a degree of complacency. Our agricultural resources and undeveloped wealth will enable us to bear the strain which may be imposed upon us, and we shall in the end come safely through the period of economic upheaval and world-wide conflict with a larger debt, it is true, but withour ability to meet it unquestioned and our economic position not seriously impaired.

THE DOG'S TEETH.

They Are Not a Sure Guide to the Animal's Age.

Unless a person makes a constant study of the canine mouth under different circumstances and a variety of feeding he is not likely to be able to derive much knowledge as to the dog's age from an inspection of the teeth, says a recent issue of Farm and Home. The eruption and appearance of the canine incissors are quite different from those of equines and ruminants, in which dentation is spread over a number of years, and in which permanent succeed temporary or milk teeth with something approaching regularity. The dog has a complete mouth at about six months, and this means that he is furnished with about forty-two teeth. The number, however, varies in different breeds, but consists generally of twelve incissors, six upper and six lower, four tushes, two upper and two lower, and six molars above and below in each jaw.

The teeth, however, do not complete their full development until the dog is is nearly a year old. They are then remarkable for their brilliant whiteness, but son show signs of discoloration and accumulation of tartar, begin to make their appearance, varying, however, with habits, feeding and the state of the digestive organs. The virgin incissors present three tubercles—a middle, which is the strongest, and two lateral. These together form a figure not unlike a trefoil or upper part of the fleur-de-lis.

When the teeth are submitted to wear the middle lobe is the first to disappear, so that the resemblance to the trefoil is lost. If this wear were regular it would help us to determine the age, but all the teeth, including the fangs or canines, are worn more or less quickly, according to the food the animal obtains. Bones and hard biscuits accelerate wear, and the calculations of the examiner are often upset by the tricks dogs have of carrying stones and sticks, and so wearing out their teeth prematurely.

Soon after maturity, in most dogs at least, a little tartar begins to form on the upper and outer surface of the top tushes and later on upon the upper teeth. By this indication a good observer can make a pretty fair guess as to a dog's age until he is 3 or 4, after which there is an increasing space between the incissors, the tables become worn, the points of the tushes round instead of sharp and the chin and muzzle become gray. Accumulation of tartar upon the teeth of pet dogs that are fed on mincemeat, gravy and vegetables from off china plates and that suffer from indigestion in consequence of high living and sedentary habits, cause the gums to recede, loosening and decay of the teeth and premature loss. Play and fighting cause breaking. The man who is going to set up as a judge of a dog's age by his teeth needs to be a careful observer and fully acquainted with its disposition.

THE GOOD APPEALS.

(Rochester Times.)

There is always this about the audience which goes to see a play. It is almost moved and affected by what is best; and, as a rule, it will turn away from that which is salacious and bad.

Be prudent, and if your hear some insult or some thrust, have the appearance of not hearing it.—George Sand.

ROSE CULTURE

An Interesting Pamphlet to be Had for the Asking.

The roses usually cultivated in Canada may be divided into four groups so far as hardiness is concerned:

Hardiest Group.—Rosa rugosa and Hybrids, Austrian briars, Provence or Cabbage roses, Damask roses, and Moss roses.

Roses of the Second Degree of Hardiness.—Hybrid Perpetuals or Hybrid Remontant, climbing roses of the Multiflora group, and Dwarf Polyantha roses.

Roses of the Third Degree of Hardiness.—Hybrid Tea and Austrian Hybrids (Pernetiana) roses.

"Roses of the Fourth Degree of Hardiness.—Tea roses.

The hardiness of the individual varieties varies considerably within the groups.

Roses of this group need little or no protection in most parts of Canada. The others must be protected except in very favored localities.

Thus write Messrs. W. T. Macoun, Dominion horticulturist, and F. E. Buck, B. S. A., assistant, in Bulletin No. 85, of the Division of Horticulture, entitled "Hardy Roses, Their Culture in Canada," which can be had free on application to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Canada, and which should have an extensive circulation. It would be difficult to imagine an official publication that is calculated to appeal more strongly to the flower lover. The information that is given is complete and thorough. "Site and Soil," "Plants and Planting," "Cultivation," "Winter Protection," "Insects and Fungous Enemies," are all described. In fact, the bulletin is, as nearly as possible within its limits of 39 pages, an encyclopedia on roses that can be cultivated in this country. Many different varieties are dealt with, tests and experiments are told about, and particulars given that can hardly fail to prove valuable to gardeners, whether amateur or professional. Every section of the country is covered and detailed lists given, with description and illustration, of good hybrid tea roses for the garden, new hybrid tea roses and good hybrid perpetual roses. Cultivation of the loveliest flower in creation after reading this bulletin, no matter what their past experience may have been, it is safe to say, will be encouraged to try again and to persevere. Some of the pointers may be thus condensed:

A soil should be chosen which is naturally cool but not cold.

Strong two-year-old budded plants are the best to plant.

An abundance of moisture is needed, but not swamps.

Soils need to be kept rich by the application of manure.

Pruning is a necessity, but requires study and experience to be successfully performed.

To obtain the first flowers, one must relentlessly cut back the bushes each spring to within six or twelve inches of the ground.

It is better to prune early in the spring than in the autumn.

Roses in Canada should be protected from severe wintry weather by being earthed up and covered with evergreen boughs or canvas.

Good foliage is essential to the production of good roses; hence every safeguard should be taken against insects and disease.

Roses grown in the open are usually propagated by budding, raising them from cuttings not always being satisfactory.

The time for budding varies in Canada, but from the latter part of July until September the stocks should be in condition in some part of the country.

SOME RUSES OF WAR.

Aerial Craft Make It More Than Ever Game of Wits.

War sharpens a man's wits.

Under its stimulating influence even the not over-bright soldier soon learns to adopt or to invent various tricks and strategams calculated to entrap or deceive the enemy. In doing so he is well within his rights, for the customs of war permit "every moue of deceiving the enemy by act or word which is not perfidious." Of course, much depends on the interpretation of the term "perfidious."

To hoist a hospital flag on a building not appropriated by the wounded is clearly a gross breach of faith and an outrage against the customs of war.

A single soldier caught in disguise is liable to be treated as a spy; but large bodies of men appear to be entitled to disguise themselves in any uniform they like—that of non-combatants barred—while, to imitate an enemy's bugle calls, signals, words of command, etc., can hardly be condemned as not "playing the game."

Another time-honored stratagem is to send out despatch riders with false despatches and orders to allow themselves to be captured. The enemy may suspect a trap, but he cannot be certain, and to keep your opponent "guessing" is almost the whole art of war.

Scouting by aeroplane and airship has greatly increased the difficulties of the general who desires to conceal his dispositions; but none the less masked or dumm batteries, feint attacks or retreats, the dissemination of false information, disguise in one form or another, individual tricks of craft and cunning, ruses big and little continue to play an important part in war and to make a battle not only a contest of shot and shell, but a very real and very fascinating duel of wits.

"Was your husband good to you, Mandy?" "'Deed he was, miss. I wo'ked 18 hours a day fo' years fo' dat man an' he never once found fault wif a thing I did fo' him."—Detroit Free Press.

ECZEMA

Results from neglected chafing and skin irritation. As a preventive and cure there is no treatment to compare with Dr. Chase's Ointment. Use it after the bath.

60 Cents a Box, all Dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto. Sample free.

Dr. Chase's Ointment

THE KILT.

The exact origin of the kilt is lost in the mists of antiquity, though the history of the famous Scottish garment goes back to the time when it was also part of the national dress of Wales and Ireland.

In the middle ages the kilt was a kind of skirt called a lenn. It was worn with a jacket and a single piece of cloth thrown over the shoulders. In those days, though the lenn was colored, it had nothing like the variety of colors of the present day plaids.

It was found that this garment, reaching, as it did, below the knees, interfered with the Scots' love of fighting, and so it became tucked or kilted, and raised just above the knees.

Back in the Middle Ages the Scottish clans were always fighting among themselves, and so it became necessary that each clan should wear some distinctive color, so that the clan he belonged to would at once be known. Why tartans should be chosen no one knows. Even as late as the early eighteen century, as a matter of fact, tartans were not very common.

A special act, the Highland garb act of 1747, was passed to try to abolish the Scottish national custom, but fortunately it failed to have any effect, save perhaps to make the kilt more worn than ever!—Pearson's Weekly.

TAKE NOTICE

We publish simple, straight testimonials, not press agents' interviews, from well-known people.

From all over America they testify to the merits of MINARD'S LINIMENT, the best of household remedies.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CO., LTD.

CLEANING HINT.

How to Remove Grease Spots Effectively With an Absorbent.

In removing a grease spot it is best to try an absorbent, for the absorbents are all harmless to materials and easily applied. Flour or cornstarch sprinkled on linen immediately will remove all spots. It should be left on for several hours, but a warm iron placed on a cloth over the powder and left until cold will hasten the process.

Turpentine or any of the other solvents may be used with an absorbent powder to make a paste for spreading over the spot. When sponging a spot if one commences at the outside and works toward the centre spreading of the grease is avoided. It is always safer to test the cleanser on a scrap of the material te see that the color is not affected. The use of a piece of the material for a sponge also lessens the liability of changing the color. The sponging should be completed by rubbing with a piece of dry cloth.

Chloroform and either are best for removing grease from delicate fabrics. Alcohol also dissolves grease, but often affects colors. A mixtures of equal parts of the three is often most effective. Kerosene does not evaporate completely, so must be followed by an absorbent or soap and water. Gasoline is best for most purposes, since it is inexpensive, quickly effective and evaporates rapidly. All of these solvents are highly inflammable and must be handled with great care.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, Etc.

PROSPERITY AND DEPRESSION.

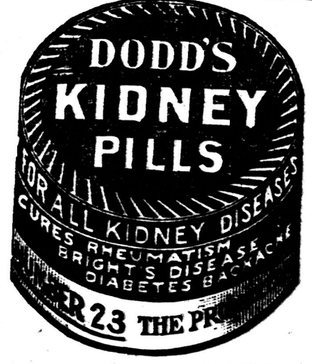
(Buffalo Express)

Prosperity and depression always are largely psychological in character. If the man in the street is now confident that prosperity is on the way, it will be here fast enough. He is just as strong an influence for prosperity when he has a happy face as he is for depression when he looks glum and begins to hoard whatever he has to board.

THE BAD BOY.

See in Boy Scout end of the bad boy.—Newspaper headline.

Up to the age of 15 to 16 the bad boy is the best boy. If at that time he does not begin to wake up and settle down he becomes a bad man, and is material for more advanced agencies of reform, regeneration or restriction than the Boy Scouts.



BETTER BABIES.

And a Few Tips for Mothers Who Would Make Them So.

I.

Keep the babies cool, inside and out. Have clothing loose and light. The child two years old or more needs nothing but sandals and rompers, with a thin knitted shirt, low-necked and sleeveless.

II.

Babies require only knitted belly bands, shirt and diaper, with a plain slip if desired. For cool nights and mornings add light-weight kimona, nightdress or sacque of Shaker or outing flannel.

III.

On very hot days give baby a cleansing bath in the morning, a cooling bath before bed time. When baby is feverish eight ounces of alcohol may be added to one quart of warm water and used as a sponge bath.

IV.

When the baby suffers from prickly heat do not use soap, but put a cup of bran meal in a cheesecloth bag and stir this in the bath water until the water takes a milky hue.

V.

Never expose the baby to the sun in hot weather. If protected from the flies by mosquito netting the baby may take an outdoor nap in the shade of the porch or tree.—Woman's Home Companion.

Advice to Dyspeptics Well Worth Following

In the case of dyspepsia, the appetite is variable. Sometimes it is ravenous, again it is often very poor. For this condition there is but one sure remedy—Dr. Hamilton's Pills—which cure quickly and thoroughly.

Sufferers find marked benefit in a day, and as time goes on improvement continues. No other medicine will strengthen the stomach and digestive organs like Dr. Hamilton's Pills. They supply the materials and assistance necessary to convert everything eaten into nourishment, into muscle, fibre and energy, with which to build up the run-down system.

Why not cure your dyspepsia now? Get Dr. Hamilton's Pills to-day, 25c per box at all dealers.

Odds and Ends.

A chemical hygrometer, said to be much superior to the psychrometer for measuring relative humidity, provides means of determining the moisture content of the air by volume measurements before and after contact with sulphuric acid, which completely absorbs the water vapor present in one contact A reading can be made in less than two minutes

By means of a pocket telephone set linemen are enabled to keep in constant touch with headquarters.

A new electric lamp socket has a lock and key feature to prevent surreptitious removal of the bulb.

A new automobile clock is wound electrically and therefore it is always running.

A horse famine in the United States is predicted by Western breeders.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

Pocket Knives.

What becomes of all the pocket knives is as great a mystery as what becomes of all the pins. Sometimes when long shadows fall across the yard, when the night birds are calling and the baby across the way has squalled his last squall until the next, we sit idly musing, recalling one by one the knives we have known and loved. The first was a Barlow, with one blade; with it came gladness such as the world can never know again. The second was an iron-handled "I. X. L.," with a razor edge, and dignity was added to joy. We swapped unsight, unseen, with "Old Man Abbey," were swindled outrageously; contracted the trading habit, and all sorts of conditions followed. None lingered At 16 we acquired a four-bladed Wasterholm that would split a hair; at 20 we owned a pearl-handled boudoir blade, which we carried in a buckskin sack, and used only for manicuring purposes or to lend casually to a girl we pestered, and at 25 a bearded pard we were presented by the late Adolphus Busch, in recognition of services to him and his wife, with a beautiful knife encased in a burnt-bone handle, containing a corkscrew attachment with his picture hiden cunningly in one end and that of a strange lady with no clothes on in the other She was very beautiful, even if not particular, but went the way of all others. The seven ages of man, the ideals and aspirations distinctive of each, are marked by the pocket knife he owns, loves for a time and loses. At 40 or more, mewling again, any old sort of a knife that will clean a pipe or uncap a bottle will do, but even they won't stick.

THE UNANIMOUS JURY.

(National Corporation Reporter)

The unanimous jury is the first obstacle to an intelligent system of criminal procedure. The number of cases in which one or two jurors block the wheels of justice, where the evidence abundantly proves the guilt of the defendant in a criminal case, is legion. If we permitted the jury to return a verdict by a two-thirds vote, as is done in Australia, after a certain number of hours of deliberation, mistrials would vanish.

THE NATURAL FINISH.

(New York Times)

The Sunday school teacher put to her class a number of questions touching the history of the cities mentioned in the Bible.

"What happened to Babylon?" was the first query.

"It fell," said one boy.

"It was destroyed."

"And what became of Nineveh?"

"And what of Tyre?"

"Punctured!"

THRIFT.

There is always a great difference between what we want and what we need. It is necessary to be very careful toward the one and not niggardly toward the other. Thrift is that regard for economy and good management which teaches one to husband his resources and not scatter them; to make the best use of the things he has rather than go in debt for the things he can get along without.

ISSUE NO. 51, 1915

HELP WANTED—MALE

WANTED — TINSMITH — AC... wanted to harness work, at ... The Hamilton Stove & Heater Co., ... ilton, Ont.

AGENTS WANTED.

AGENTS WANTED—MALE OR FE... male, household goods—free ... ples and catalogues. Don't apply ... you need money; references required. ... C. Rand, Lennoxville, Que.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—FANCY PIGEONS AND ... flying homers; prices reasonable. ... J. Holton, 62 Caroline street south, Ham... ilton, Ont.

DIRECTING A BATTLE.

How the General Staff Keeps in Touch With the Firing Line.

In wartime the many threads leading from the long battle line at length ... a common point, which is the headquarters of the general staff. The activity of each officer attached to the general staff is therefore of the greatest importance for the success of every military enterprise.

During the action every officer of the staff is at the immediate disposal of the commanding general and assits him in the carrying out of orders.

Among the duties of the staff officer during action belong the gathering and compilation of reports which are constantly pouring into headquarters and which give intimation of the progress of the battle. The staff officer must observe the needs of the troops in action. He must keep a close watch on the supply of ammunition. He must see that their commanders properly execute the orders of the commanding general. He must look after the wounded, see that they are properly treated and sent to lazarets. He must see to it that prisoners are properly cared for and that the commissariat is adequate provided for and the provisioning of the troops.

Something the commanding general intrusts a staff officer with the observation of the action of the opposing forces which may be beyond the view of headquarters or he may be sent to the firing line with important orders to commanders there, which, however, the staff officer has authority to alter if in his judgment this is necessary.

During defense movements it is of particular importance to observe closely the movements of the opposing forces in order to make preparation for counter movements, such as advances, retreats, the sending of re-enforcements and other movements of troops. Execution of these movements falls within the province of the staff officer.

The training of the staff officer is very thorough. A complete practical course in military science extending over many years' of active service with various bodies of troops, is augmented by years of study at the war college, which embraces the last word in the theoretical science of modern warfare.—New York Tribune.

A WOMAN'S MESSAGE TO WOMEN

If you are troubled with weak, tired feelings, headache, backache, bearing down sensations, bladder weakness, constipation, catarrhal conditions, pain in the sides regularly or irregularly, bloating or unnatural enlargements, sense of falling or misplacement of internal organs, nervousness, desire to cry, palpitation, hot flashes, dark rings under the eyes, or a loss of interest in life, I invite you to write and ask for my simple method of home treatment with ten days' trial entirely free and postpaid, also references to Canadian ladies who gladly tell how they have regained health, strength, and happiness by this method. Write to-day. Address: Mrs. M. Summers, Box 4, Windsor Ont.

SUBMARINE CABLES.

Placed End to End They Would Reach Halfway to the Moon.

The various governments of the world own together 880 cables, having a total length of 14,480 miles and containing 21,500 miles of conductors. The French government, which takes the lead as to length of cables, has 3,460 miles in fifty-four cables. As to number, the Norwegian government comes first, with 255 cables, having a total length of 248 miles. Finally, as to the length of conductors, the English government comes first, with 5,468 miles of conductors, divided among 115 cabies, having a total length of 1,588 miles. Private companies to the number of twenty-eight own 288 cables, having a length of 126,864 miles and containing 127,632 miles of conductors.

The French companies, only two in number—the Compagnie Francaise du Telegraphe de Paris at New York and the Societe Francaise des Telegraphes Sous-Marins—have eighteen cables with a total length of 7,249 nautical miles. The most important of the private companies is the Eastern Telegraph company, which operates seventy-five cables, with a total length of 25,347 miles. The total number of cables in the world is 1,168, with a total length of 140,347 miles and 149,-193 miles of conductors. This is not sufficient to reach to the moon, but would extend more than halfway there.—London Tit-Bits.

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows.

ECLIPSES SCHEDULED FOR 1916.

Reference to the 1916 almanac indicates six eclipses during 1916.

Two of tnem, an annual eclipse of the sun on July 29 and a partial eclipse of it on December 8, will not be visable hereabouts and may be dismissed with passing reference. The other four are of more moment, one of them particularly so. Here they are in chronological order.

January 20—Partial eclipse of the moon, the beginning visible generally in extreme western Europe, the north Atlantic ocean, North and South America and the Pacific ocean; the ending visible generally in North America, the north Atlantic ocean, northwestern South America, northeast Asia and the Pacific ocean.

February 3.—Total eclipse of the sun, partially visible here, beginning 8h. 27m. morning (eastern time). Also in western Europe and Africa, northern South America and the oceans adjacent thereto. The path of total eclipse entends through extreme northern part of South America from across north Atlantic ocean to Pacific ocean.

July 14-15.—Partial eclipse of the moon, the beginning visible generally in Africa, southwestern Europe, the Atlantic ocean, North America, except the more western portions, South America and the south Pacific ocean; the ending visible generally in the Atlantic ocean, North and South America and the south Pacific ocean.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

THIS RECRUIT A JESTER.

(New York Times)

An Irish recruit was being drilled in the mysteries of fencing with the bayonet.

"Now," cried the instructor, after carefully explaining various lunges, "what would you do if your opponent feinted?"

"Bezzorra, Sir," said the Irishman, with a wink. "I'd jest prod him wid the point of my bayonet to see if he was shammin'."