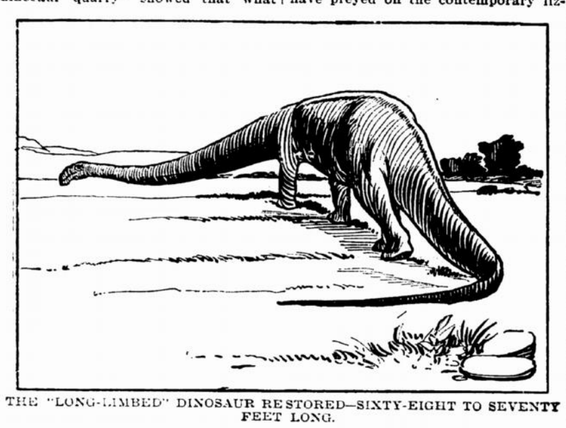
An American Quarry of Prehistoric Bones

Being Some Account of the Giant Reptile Remains of the Laramie Plains and Como Bluffs, Wyoming.

EUROPEAN palaeontologists consider themselves fortunate if they find two or three bones or a few teeth of the gigantic land reptiles of the Oolitic and Wealden epochs for which Sir Richard Owen years ago proposed the excellent name of dinosaurs (that is to say, terrible lizards), and the discovery of a considerable portion of an associated skeleton in a condition fit for mounting, like the one from the Oxford clay, near Peterborough, England, recently set up in the Natural History museum at South Kensington, is a unique event. Their American coworkers, on the other hand, suffer from an embarras de richesses in the matter of such remains, so that more or less nearly complete, articulated skeletons of these saurian monsters are far from uncommon in our museums. Previous American discoveries of these remains have, however, been put altogether in the shade by the extraordinary "finds" which have been made during the last few years in the Oolitic of Jurassic strata of the Laramie plains in Albany county, south-central Wyoming.

The first discovery of these remains was accidental, an explorer in 1897 coming across a rude hut which had been constructed by the shepherds out of the bones of these extinct reptiles. Subsequent exploration of this "great dinosaur quarry" showed that what



THE "LONG-LIMBED" DINOSAUR RESTORED—SIXTY-EIGHT TO SEVENTY FEET LONG.

appeared to be dark boulders dotting the surface of the ground were really dinosaur bones. Some ten miles distant, at Como bluffs, was discovered another "dinosaur cemetery," equally rich in these wonderful remains. Originally the "dinosaur quarry" and Como bluffs must have been connected by the stratum which has been called the "dinosaur bed," but this has long since been denuded away, leaving an open stretch of plain. The strata have, however, been thrown into huge folds, and here and there a remnant or "outcrop" of the dinosaur-bed, which is about 170 feet in thickness, is met with in riding across the plain.

At the foot of the bluffs the remains of the dinosaurs lie at intervals of from 20 to 100 feet apart, and it is but rarely that an entire skeleton is discovered. In the Bone-Cabin quarry, on the other hand, as shown in the diagram on another page, the bones lie thickly crowded, perfect skeletons of the limbs, like the one figured above, being far from uncommon;

AT WORK IN BONE CABIN QUARRY.

while remains of the giant herbivorous forms, measuring fully 60 feet in length, are mingled with the smaller carnivorous types which made them their prey. A feature of these remains is the number of complete specimens of the skeleton of the tail, a phenomenon which Prof Osborn explains by the firmness with which the bones of this portion of the skeleton are held together by tendons. Not the least remarkable feature about these tails of the giant herbivorous forms are certain marks on the bones evidently made by the teeth of the carnivorous types; and Prof. Osborn suggests in the Century Magazine that the carnivorous species were in the habit of picking the bones of their herbivorous relatives precisely in the same manner as a condor now cleans the backbone of a horse.

The bluffs, according to Prof. Osborn, appear to represent the neighborhood of an ancient shore-line, such as is depicted in the restoration of the brontosaur. The Bone-Cabin quarry, on the other hand, is more likely the area of an ancient river bar, the shallow waters of which arrested the more or less decomposing carcases of the dinosaurs and other reptiles as they were slowly floated down stream.

The giant herbivorous forms, such as the brontosaur and the diplodocus, habitually walked on all fours, and they may perhaps have at times waded deep in the water, whence their long necks would have enabled them to browse with ease on the rank herbage fringing the banks. With creatures of between 60 and 70 feet in length, it is obvious that some lightening of the bones of the skeleton must be imperative, as otherwise the vast bulk would break down or be immovable by its own weight. This has been accomplished by hollowing out the interior of the vertebrae by means of large cavities, by compressing their lower portion in an hour-glass shape, and by supporting the slender upper part by means of buttresses on the T-iron principle. The result of this is that a dinosaur verebra weighed only about half as much as that of a whale of the same approximate dimensions (in which there is obviously no need for lightness); and it has been further ascertained that while the skeleton of a 74-foot whale weighs 17,920 pounds, that of a giant dinosaur of the same approximate size did not probably exceed 10,000 pounds. That these dinosaurs were essentially land animals is demonstrated with certainty by this lightening of their skeletons; but the old idea that they were sluggish and slow-moving creatures is not countenanced by Prof. Osborn. The spoon-like teeth, which in some instances were confined to the front of the jaws, indicated that, unlike the English iguanodon of the Sussex Wealden, they swallowed their food without mastication.

Mingled with the larger bones of the giant dinosaurs are those of the smaller carnivorous species, together with others pertaining to a third group, the armored dinosaurs, taking their name from the plates and spines of bone by which they were protected. Of the flesh-eating dinosaurs there were two distinct types—a smaller and a larger. The former, thinks Prof. Osborn, may have preyed on the contemporary lizard-birds, allied to or identical with the well-known European archaeopteryx. The larger kind, on the other hand, appear to have attacked and killed the giant herbivorous species, or, at all events, preyed on their dead carcasees, as is attested by the aforesaid tail-verebrae, which not only show the grooves made by their teeth, but have actually had their summits bitten off. Armed with sharp and serrated teeth like those of the saber-toothed tiger on a small scale, the carnivorous dinosaurs habitually walked on their hind limbs, and were thus admirably adapted to throw themselves on their unprotected giant relations, which, it is suggested, they may have gripped in the first instance by the long and slender throat.

Nearly all these American types of dinosaurs are represented in Europe, where they were first named and described. As already mentioned, the English species are in many cases known only by a few bones or teeth, so that it is frequently very difficult to know the exact nature of their relationship to the American forms. Nor is it always as easy to ascertain what are the proper names of some of the English species, since names have been given on the evidence of a single tooth or a single bone which may perhaps have belonged to the same species. If, however, more specimens approaching the completeness of the above-mentioned skeleton from Peterborough recently set up in the Natural History museum be forthcoming, we may in time be asked to determine which teeth should be associated with which bones. Much it has been found possible to do already in this direction from the evidence of the complete American skeletons, but more remains to be accomplished. In spite of the scattered state of their remains, it is, however, quite evident that the English dinosaurs were in no wise inferior in point of size to their American cousins.

POSTAL CARDS AS NEWS.

The Pictured Pasteboards Are Put to a New Use in the British Isles.

Through the enterprise of a newsdealer a new use has been found for the ubiquitous postal card. When the recent attack of the Baltic fleet upon the Hull trawlers was the news of the day this man had an inspiration which he lost no time in putting into effect, reports a London paper. Within 24 hours after the damaged vessel had returned to port, printing machines were running hundreds of thousands of pictorial post cards illustrating the effect of the Russian shells upon the vessels and the fishermen. Street venders were soon out with huge packets of these cards, which they disposed of in no time. Every stationer's shop in the country soon received its share of these cards, though owing to the great demand they were a week behind the news. Within a few days more than 1,000,000 of these cards had been disposed of. Such incidents being, as they are, of general interest, are veritable gold mines to the dealers.

Royal visits always make sales for these cards. When the king and queen of Portugal made their recent visit to England they were met at every turn by the all pervasive post card bearing pictures of them. Some $25,000 was netted during the tour from the sale of these cards. It is needless to say that the success of most cards demands that they shall be on sale when the subjects which they depict are at high water mark of interest.

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS.

THE BOARD OF CONTROL BILL NOT HAVING EASY TIME BY ANY MEANS.

RAILWAY MEN INTERESTED.

Advocates of Good Roads are Getting Together and Favorable Results may be Attained.

St. Paul, Feb. 20.—After weeks of contest in the house, that body has finally passed what is known as the Horton bill, which provides for the maintenance of the new state capitol building. As the measure came in from the senate the appropriation was fixed at $75,000 annually, and provision was made for the appointment of one of the members of the capitol commission as resident director at a salary of $3,000 yearly. It gave control of the building absolutely to the capitol commission and said nothing about the length of time which that body should have in which to complete the building. The result of the fight in the house was to materially change the measure. The appropriation was trimmed down to $60,000 annually, no salaried resident director is provided for and it is directed that the capitol commission shall go out of existence August 1st, 1906. At the bottom of this contract was the feeling on the part of those who were opposed to the Horton bill that it was drafted with a view to placing the patronage involved in other hands than those of the governor. This sentiment was freely expressed by them and the insinuation was vigorously denied by the supporters of the measure. The opponents wanted to adopt a plan which would give the governor the appointment of the large number of laborers required. The bill, as finally adopted, directs that the board of control shall purchase all coal and supplies. The bill will be returned to the senate to concur in the amendments.

The senate has gone on record as favoring the repeal of the Nelson bankruptcy act, though quite a respectable minority opposed favorable consideration of the Coller resolution memorializing congress upon the subject.

Interesting the Railways.

Railway officials are greatly interested in several of the measures now pending in the legislature, as was evident from the large attendance of railway lawyers at the hearing given Thursday last on the Peterson bill, which provides for the abolition of free passes and the reduction of passenger rates to 2 cents a mile. Senator Peterson, author of the bill, was the only spokesman in its favor, and his contention was that the adoption of a law such as proposed would cost the railways little, if anything, and that the loss of income occasioned by the reduced rate would be more than made good by the increased returns paid in by persons now traveling free. His argument was strongly contested by the attorneys. A. B. Clarke, general solicitor for the Minneapolis & St. Louis, declared that the railways could not earn enough to grease their wheels at the 2-cent rate. He gave figures to show that the average cost of transporting passengers on his line was 2.99 cents per mile and said that the average rate now being received was only 2.02 per mile, exclusive of earnings from mail and express carried on passenger trains. All the attorneys declared that very little free transportation was issued and that its abolition would have but little effect. It was the general opinion of the attorneys that the issuance of passes was a matter of little importance, though all of them were apparently willing to have that feature of the bill enacted into law. The hearing occurred before the senate committee on railways and was productive of no decisive result.

A petition sent to both houses of the legislature by the Minnesota Municipal and Commercial League asks for a material reduction of local distance freight rates, and suggests that the railway and warehouse commission, whether additional power be given them or not, should cause an investigation of the subject and make an order which would give Minnesota business and shippers rates which are fair and reasonable and at least as favorable as those now enjoyed in neighboring states. Specifically the petition asks: Legislation which shall give the railway and warehouse commission power to establish rates which shall be prima facie just and reasonable, and be in force until set aside by the courts; placing telegraph, telephone and electric lines under control of the railway and warehouse commission; that it be made the duty of the commission to prosecute before the interstate commerce commission complaints on claims of citizens of this state of violations of the interstate commerce laws, when such claims seem proper and just to the commission; legislation wiping out "bucket shops;" the exemption of county, township, village, school district or other political subdivision bonds from taxation; that the railway and warehouse commission have their attention called to the sections of existing laws which direct them to visit each station in the state each year, and to institute proceedings of their own without waiting for a complaint; that broad and general amendments to the state constitution be submitted permitting the legislature to revise the whole field of taxation; the passage of a reciprocal demurrage law.

A bill has been introduced by Representative Flower which provides that the board of control shall make public the terms of all contracts accepted by it for the construction of public buildings. This is directly antagonistic to the wishes of the board, which contends that by keeping such prices secret it secures better terms.

Accounts and Expenditures.

The house committee on public accounts and expenditures has decided, if possible, to go to the bottom of the charges so freely made in relation to timber trespass and laxity in the administration of the laws relating to the granting of mineral leases and has decided to summon former Gov. Van Sant and State Auditor S. G. Iverson to give testimony. It is said that the committee will make a thorough examination of several departments of the state government, including the office of public examiner and the state fish and game commission.

The house committee on elections has expressed itself as opposed to any extension of the primary election system which would do away with party conventions and a subcommittee has been appointed to draft a measure which will provide for the election of delegates at the regular primaries. There is much division of sentiment evident among the members generally regarding this problem, however, and it would be impossible to predict what manner of bill will be the outcome.

The resumption of the fight to take educational institutions from under the jurisdiction of the state board of control which was scheduled for the afternoon of Feb. 16, was postponed on account of the light attendance caused by the absence of many senators on junketing trips. It is to be considered again Tuesday next.

Educational Institutions.

St. Paul, Feb. 23.—Those members of the legislature who are working hard to secure the passage of the senate bill divesting the state board of control of jurisdiction over the educational institutions of the state are having a hard time of it. It will be remembered that when the measure was before the upper house about a week ago it was amended by including the state public school at Owatonna, and the schools for the deaf and the blind at Faribault. This amendment was distasteful to the friends of the measure, who contend that it was a device of the enemies of the bill to load it down with objectionable provisions. The bill was again taken up as a special order by the senate yesterday but the attendance was slight and on motion of Senator Brower, who is leading the contest for the educational institutions, a further postponement was taken until next Friday afternoon. There was a spirited contest over the adoption of Mr. Brower's motion, which won out by the narrow margin of one vote.

Quite a display of oratory was provoked in the house in the course of consideration of the Adams bill, which provides that when lumber is sold as inch stuff it shall measure a full inch, etc. A Minneapolis member made the point that such a law would serve no practical purpose, inasmuch as all lumber was cut for certain purposes with which builders were perfectly familiar. Mr. Adams contended that there was no more good reason why lumber should be sold on false representation than any other commodity. A motion to indefinitely postpone the bill was defeated, and further action was delayed.

Tax Commissioner.

Representative S. D. Peterson has introduced a bill which provides for the creation of the office of tax commissioner at an annual salary of $3,500, he to be appointed by the governor and to hold office until January, 1907, after which time a four-year term is provided. The principal duty of the commissioner will be to ferret out unpaid taxes and to see that public service corporations pay their share of the public burden. In addition he is to make a study of laws in other states for the purpose of suggesting improvements in our taxation laws to the legislature.

Advocates of good roads have been getting together recently, with the result that a general form of a proposed new law has been agreed upon and a subcommittee of the joint road and bridge committee has been appointed, with instructions to draft a bill along indicated lines and have it introduced. The bill will provide for a highway commission of three, to serve without pay. The state tax of one-twentieth of a mill is to be levied each year and distributed among the counties. The money is to be spent by the county commissioners, subject to the approval of the state commission. The commission is to be allowed an appropriation for the employment of engineers and a highway engineer and a corps of road experts are allowed. Their duties will be to investigate and report upon proposed new roads. Counties are given the option of building any kind of road which seems best to suit local conditions and may establish grades and build scientific roads only when they desire. It is calculated that inasmuch as there will be no direct tax for road purposes this year, the proposed new law will interfere in no way with the passage of the usual omnibus road and bridge measure by this legislature.

Representative J. B. Kelly is the author of a bill which provides for increasing the terms of all county officials to four years. It also includes a provision which would extend the terms of two-year officials already elected.

Railway Fares.

Representative Ware, of Northfield, has introduced a substitute for his 2½-cent passenger fare bill, in which many objections are obviated which were urged against the original bill. Reduced excursion rates are permitted and interchangeable mileage books at the 2-cent rate are made compulsory. Mr. Ware also introduced a bill making it malfeasance for any public officer, elective or appointive, to solicit or accept passes, reductions in prices or favors of any kind from railways, telephones or telegraph companies. Removal from office by the governor is the punishment prescribed. For those who offer such favors a fine of $500 is fixed.

It is still a matter of doubt whether or not the legislature will be able to properly amend the code revision report so that it will be in shape for ultimate adoption at this session. The judiciary committees of both houses have been laboring with great diligence and the mass of amendments which have been agreed upon is somewhat appalling in view of the fact that scores of important bills have yet to receive action at the hands of both houses. Chairman Anderson, of the house judiciary committee, feels that his committee will have its code report before the house within the week, and it has been agreed among the leaders to make it a special order to be considered each afternoon, until the task is completed. This is slow work and will consume a great deal of time, and more will be consumed when the two houses have succeeded, each to their own satisfaction, in framing a code, try to get together on the points of difference which are certain to result.

Representative Gates has introduced a bill giving village councils power to prescribe safety regulations at railway crossings.

Representative Bardwell is the author of a bill appropriating $5,000 to aid the Minnesota Horticultural Society.

The state dairy and food department was not satisfied with the revision of the law as it came from the code commission, insofar as it related to the work of that department, and will submit an entirely new section which has been carefully prepared for it by Former Assistant Attorney General Somerby.

Gov. Johnson has transmitted to the legislature a communication from the officials of the Lewis and Clark exposition, to be held at Portland, Ore., this year, requesting the co-operation of Minnesota and that a suitable display of our products be provided for. The legislature will doubtless be called upon to pass upon an appropriation for the purpose.

Insurance Laws.

Over thirty amendments to the insurance laws, as revised by the statute revision commission, have been recommended by the subcommittee of the judiciary committee of the house, and have been reported in by Chairman M. L. Fosseen. The most important of these was the two per cent premium tax, which, by inadvertance the commission had applied to all earnings of companies doing business in the state. Under the amendment the tax will be levied only upon business done in the state. Another important amendment allows all fire departments in the state to participate in the provision for state aid. The commission had limited this aid to departments having at least a fire engine, a hook and ladder truck and a hose cart. This would have barred out fully two-thirds of the organizations in the state. Another amendment exempts fraternal insurance from payment of the two per cent tax. As reported by the commission, annual valuations of insurance companies are made necessary. This would entail an expense of $120,000 yearly upon the companies. As amended, the valuations shall be made at the discretion of the insurance commissioner. Newspaper publishers and job printers are authorized to form mutual companies under another amendment, and still another omission is remedied by conferring upon the insurance commissioner the power to revoke the license of any company failing to pay its taxes.

Chairman Wallace, of the subcommittee on corporations of the house, has reported over 100 amendments to the code relating to that subject.

Educators interested in securing more efficiency in their line of work have agreed upon a bill which will require that county superintendents shall have professional experience and training before entering upon the duties of their offices. The bill will provide for the creation of county school boards, which shall have entire supervision of schools, and shall elect the county superintendents and fix salaries.

MINNESOTA HAPPENINGS

Plans are discussed for the sanatorium at Walker.

The St. Paul Lacrosse club holds its annual meeting.

The state dairy commissioner is keeping up his crusade for pure milk.

St. Paul will ask for the installation of four pneumatic mail tubes.

The St. Paul Ski club's first annual tournament is a great success.

Gov. Johnson recommends that the state timber board be reorganized.

Twin Cities are likely to get pneumatic mail tubes.

Gov. Johnson announced the appointment of Dr. Thomas Lowe of Pipestone as a member of the board of medical examiners to take the place of Dr. A. B. Cole of Fergus Falls, whose term expired.

Wolves are becoming very numerous near Frazee, and they are coming to the farm yards near the town. Timothy Chilton, Jr., shot one at the rear of his barn.

The St. Paul Roosevelt club is making an extra effort to have the members, who now number near to 400, in readiness for the Washington trip to the inaugural.

Martin County Farmers' club held an institute at Granada.

Miss Cecilia Dixon, 940 Earl street, is knocked down and robbed by a footpad.

The state food commission finds much bad milk and cream in the Twin Cities.

Farmers near Montrose contemplate erecting a large department store at that place in the spring.

The Minneapolis Whist club wins the St. Paul trophy at the tournament of the Northwestern Whist association.

Henry Nichoff's farm house near New Ulm burned while the family was attending church. The loss was $1,000.

A. B. Harris, a laborer employed by the Northern Pacific railway and residing at Minneapolis, was struck by a freight train while he was working under the Mississippi street bridge, St. Paul, and painfully injured.

Articles of incorporation were filed with the secretary of state by the Winona House Furnishing company. The capital stock is $10,000. The incorporators are Ruvin Salamowitz, Louis S. Frisch and Max Chavkin.

Gossip From Scandinavia.

Principal Events That Have Occurred in the Old Countries Within a Week or So.

SWEDEN

A laborers' mass meeting in Stockholm resolved to raise some money for the Russian strikers.

Johan Johansson i Noraskog, who was prominent in the politics of Sweden for a quarter of a century, died of heart failure in Stockholm.

It is said that certain capitalists are contemplating the establishment of a direct steamship line between Sweden and America. Parties connected with the existing lines are already threatening the proposed concern with destructive competition.

Kristina Nilsson (Countess de Casa Miranda) left Sweden on her way to Paris early in February.

The Hildesborg estate, near Landskrona, has been sold by ex-Governor G. Wachtmeister to Consul N. Persson of Helsingborg for $115,000.

Miss Eva Rodhe of Gothenburg has received a gold medal from the king in recognition of her long and faithful service as a public school teacher. The precious badge was handed to her by the bishop of her diocese.

Applications have been made for loans amounting to one million dollars from the government fund for enabling poor workingmen to procure homes of their own.

The Skane Farmers' Protective association is perfecting its organization to counterbalance the influence of the farm laborers' union.

Johs Jonsson, of Vinslof, has donated $2,400 to the municipality of Vinslof for lighting the streets.

Many far-sighted Danes, in looking at the trouble between Sweden and Norway, reason according to the old adage, "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good." They hold that if the ties between Norway and Sweden are somewhat loosened, putting Norway on an absolutely independent basis, Denmark will be put in much closer touch with the nations on the peninsula. In other words, the absolute independence of each of the three countries will mean a morally united Scandinavia.

Carl Fredrik Lundqvist, one of the most illustrious opera singers that Sweden ever had, was dismissed last summer, after a service of almost 40 years at the Royal opera in Stockholm. The dismissal came without one word of explanation. Lundqvist is now giving concerts in the cities of southern Sweden. Though he is 64 years old, his voice still has such a charm that he is invariably greeted by large audiences.

Most of the leading Swedish newspapers agree that it would not be proper for Sweden to make any further concessions to the Norwegians with regard to the consular service question. Vort Land expects a storm of abuse from Norway, but the Norwegians "can blow down neither the union nor Sweden." The same paper is hard on Baron Lagerheim, former Swedish minister of foreign affairs, because he was to a large extent responsible for the agreement to establish a separate consular service for Norway.

Varner Ryden of Malmo lectured on "The Church and the Schools," at a public mass meeting in Stockholm, and at the close of the lecture the following resolution was adopted: "The laborers of Stockholm demand imperatively that the school be liberated from the tutelage of the church. For this purpose a vigorous struggle must be made against the dominion of the church, and for the introduction, in the schools of the state, of an instruction which is free from religious denominationalism." A committee of five was elected to push the work suggested in the resolution.

A conference representing the Mission Friends, the Baptists and the Methodists was held in Stockholm during the second week of February. About 500 ministers and delegates were in attendance. J. Bystrom, a member of the riksdag, was elected chairman. P. P. Waldenstrom spoke on the catechism of the state church. He criticised the book, but he was afraid that a committee of bishops would be unable to produce anything better. The new catechism, he said, must agree with the Bible, be plain and easy to understand, and not be drawn up in questions and answers, like the old one.

The suffrage reform bill prepared by the government and defeated by the last riksdag has been slightly modified and introduced a second time.

Dispatches say that a serious strike riot occurred at Helsingborg; that cavalry charged the rioters, and that 30 persons were injured.

A piece of ground lying between the two cemeteries in Helsingborg have been given to the city by Consul N. Persson. The ground, which is worth at least $25,000, is to be added to the old burial grounds, making one large cemetery.

A co-operative peat litter manufacturing company has been organized at Solfvesborg. About 450 acres of swamp land has been bought for the company near Karreboda at a price of about $2,000. A railroad line will be built from the bog to the Solfvesborg, Olofstrom & Elmhult railway.

The Orebro woolen mills at Skeback, near Orebro, were almost completely destroyed by fire. The fire was started by friction in a cording machine. It spread so rapidly that some of the employes barely escaped with their lives. The loss is about $75,000, which is covered by insurance.

The executive committee of the Swedish Authors' union has resolved to send no protest to the Russian authorities against the imprisonment of Maxim Gorki, because those authorities have proved themselves deaf to the appeals of the champions of civilization.

The Scandinavian games in Stockholm were an overwhelming success from every point of view, and those who had the pleasure of attending them vied with each other in saying pleasant things about them. The foreigners seem to have been even more enthused than the natives.

The Swedish consul general in Copenhagen has issued a warning to Swedish laborers not to go to Denmark in search of work, for they are too apt to be disappointed.

The Norrtelje Tidning was fined by a Swedish court for saying something ugly about the czar of Russia. Now the editor, Gottfried Peterssoa, announces that he wants to pay the fine himself, thereby keeping to himself all the honor of having been the only Swede who, in times of danger, had publicly told the whole truth about the czar's rotten policy.

NORWAY

Rev. Eriksen, a socialist member of the storthing, introduced a bill abolishing the offices of bell-ringers and bishops. The committee on church affairs proposed that the bill be referred to the government. All the members of the committee agreed that the bell-ringers, or sextons, might be dispensed with, but most of them firmly believe that the bishops are necessary.

It looks as if the receipts of the government for the current year will run about $175,000 below the estimate on which the budget of expenses was made.

A number of Norwegian authors, artists and scientists have petitioned the Russian government to set Maxim Gorki free.

Gustav Vigeland has finished a statue of Niels Henrik Abel, the great Norwegian mathematician, and the Abel monument committee has resolved to accept the work.

Three persons were living on one of the Roseth farms, West Toten. Their ages were 57, 69 and 77 years, and all of them died of pneumonia within ten days leaving the house empty.

In Tuddal, Telemarken, 43 buildings were either blown down or damaged during a storm.

Bjornson said: "If I were to sign the petition to have Maxim Gorki liberated he would be sent to Siberia."

Paul Nessjo made a leap of 98 feet, standing, at a ski run on Graakallen, Trondhjem. He made another leap of 125 feet, but fell down when he struck the ground.

Kristiania had 222,346 inhabitants Dec. 31, 1904. There was a decrease of 1,303 in one year.

A cablegram of Feb. 18 stated that the storthing, by a unanimous vote, referred the question of establishing separate Norwegian consulates to a committee of 19, to be composed of 8 Rightists, 8 Leftists, 2 Moderates and 1 Socialist.

Harbor Inspector Gloersen, one of the oldest citizens of Kristiania, celebrated his 97th birthday anniversary Feb. 1. For a number of years he commanded sailing vessels, and in 1856 became captain of the steamer Gauger Rolf. Mr. Gloersen has lived under eight different kings.

The whole number of deaths caused by the Leonvand catastrophe was 61.

Col. I. Munthe Bull, a brother of the great violinist, died at Bergen, aged 89 years.

Lofoten was visited by a storm which proved more destructive than the first reports indicated. In the parish of Buksnes the damage was perhaps $15,000, while in Flakstad parish the destruction of boats and buildings was so extensive that the loss may reach $100,000. At Reine many houses were so badly demolished that their occupants were actually rendered homeless. Adolf Steffensen's house at Torsfjord was blown over and crushed, and all of the occupants were badly injured. One of them, a child, died the next day. Adolf Steffensen, the head of the family, was away from home when the storm set in, and he started for the house as fast as he could. But the storm overtook him, and only fragments of his broken boat were found.

Ministers of the state churches of Norway and Sweden were to have a joint conference, but the executive committee of the Norwegian ministers' union decided that the Norwegian ministers cannot attend the conference if the consular service plan is foiled.

The American millionaire explorer, Mr. McMillan, has engaged a number of Norwegians to take a leading part in carrying out his project of establishing a chain of trading posts between Abyssinia and the Blue Nile. The party is to meet in London and go thence by way of Aden to Harrar. The real starting point of the expedition's work will be at the source of Blue Nile.

Fredrik O. Juell Hanssen, district cashier of the Bergen railway, and Johan Theodor Nilsen, his guide, are supposed to have perished in the mountains near Voss. They were lost while on the way from Finse to Voss. Six separate expeditions and 50 laborers went in search of them, but in vain. The lost men were expert ski runners.

DENMARK.

Three earthquakes of considerable violence were felt in Iceland Jan. 28.

Four Copenhagen steamship companies were unable to pay any dividends for the past year on account of the unfavorable conditions of the shipping trade.

Fifteen fishermen lost their lives in a storm at Isafjord, Iceland. Their homes were at Bolungarvik, a hamlet having a population of 250. The men went out to sea in the finest of weather. But all of a sudden a terrific storm arose, as if out of the deep. A fight for life was on, and the men rowed towards their homes, death staring them in the face. They reached Bolungarvig, but the waves broke against the beach with the noise of thunder, and every boat was smashed, and all of the fifteen occupants carried back into the sea by the receding waves.

Herman Bang is writing a new book. It is to be a labor novel. What has made the deepest impression upon him, he says, is the struggle between workmen and machines. Behind the machines stand genius and capital. Genius aims at perfection, but the laborer is made superfluous. First, the men are crowded out by the women, and next the women are crowded out by the machines. The book is written under the influence of these reflections.

The East Asia and West Indies steamship companies have been consolidated, making the combined capital stock $2,700,000.

Some Russian Writers That Stir Up Agitation

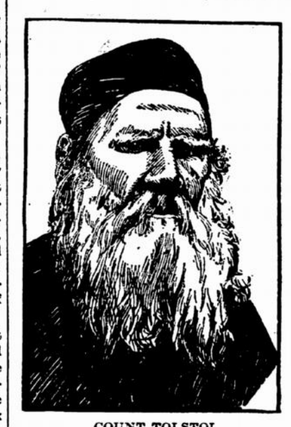
Fearless Men of the Czar's Realm Who Send Forth Books That Reach the People and Have Strong Influence.

BRAVE men are they that dare keep on writing plainly in a land where freedom of speech is held a crime. The English periodical, "Literature," in an article on "Russia and Her Prophets," so well suggests Russia's attitude towards her men of letters we are tempted to quote at length from the very interesting paper. "A rigid supervision and control of men of letters has long been the recognized Russian equivalent of the policy of stoning the prophets. Erudition is allowed by the government of the tsars, but the divine gift of the imagination has hardly ever failed to gets its possessor into trouble. Pushkin was banished to some place in the remote country. Schevchenko was sentenced to serve as a private soldier on the Asiatic frontier. Tourgenoff had to seek safety in flight. Dostoieffski was exiled to Siberia and knouted. Korolensko was condemned to spend three years in a frozen Yakut village. Tolstoi was but lately excommunicated. And now there is the case of Gorki, turned out of St. Petersburg, kept out of Moscow, and only allowed to winter in the Crimea on condition that he does not visit Yalta, to be added to the list."

In spite of the above mentioned treatment by Russia of her literary men, compared with the journalists they have much the better show. Explanation of this is given in the article just quoted from, and is as follows: The novelist who writes a whole book to convey an idea which the journalist could crystallize in a paragraph has obviously a better chance of running the gauntlet. They do not, of course, write novels with purposes after the style of the late Charles Reade. To do that would be to give themselves over, bound hand and foot, into the enemy's hands. It is enough for them to drop hints. The censor is puzzled, there is nothing for him to lay hold upon, and he does not wish to pose as the implacable enemy of literature. So the novelist is allowed to sow the seed, but gets into trouble when the crop comes to maturity.

George Kennan, writing in the Outlook, calls attention to the extent to which journalism is held down in the realm of the czar. He refers to the fact that in the last few years 26 newspapers and periodicals have been suppressed there, to use his words directly, 501 administrative punishments less severe than absolute suppression, including suspensions that amount in the aggregate to nearly half a century. In the light of these figures, we quite believe our English contemporary when it declares imaginative literature is the only medium in Russia for making fair and reasonable comments on matters of public interest.

Perhaps boldest, most fearless of all Russian writers is Tolstoi, who, from the quiet of his country retreat, fires every now and then "the shot heard round the world." Could anyone utter stronger language, more denunciatory, revolutionary, than that used in the article written by him for the London Times on the subject of the Russo-Japanese war? As we read those lines a few months ago we marveled that czar, grand duke, reactionary minister should allow the writer thereof to continue to live in freedom. It is said Tolstoi is a man for whom the mass of Russians feel such reverence it would be impossible for the government to lay hands upon him, to exile or imprison him. True, he has been



COUNT TOLSTOI.

excommunicated; but he has not been banished.

How many years is it now that Tolstoi has been attacking Russian misrule, another one of the Russian nobility moved to make passionate appeal for the debased and helpless peasant? Ever since the peasants were freed from serfdom (1861) he has labored to upraise the mujik; but he labors in a different way from the revolutionary as popularly interpreted; he declares: "Consciously or unconsciously, the people know that the right way for them to all good is not by arms and murder, but by spiritual enlightenment; know that the only action permissible or expedient is passive resistance and a campaign of education."

The strength of Tolstoi some may attribute to genius; to us it seems an unshackled spirit crying out for the brother that knows not how to cry for himself. When we read Tolstoi we think little of form or style, we are so carried away by the torrent of words that must have come red-hot from the man's heart; he is humanitarian before author.

Gorky—The Bitter One, his real name is Ppeshkoff—deals with the under side of things. Especially fond is he of depicting the life of the bosiaki (beggars), of the scum of city population. One of his plays The Bitter One calls "In the Depths," and in it is portrayed the life that goes on in a common lodging house. Gorky's first book, "Foma Gordyceff," caused him to be hailed by French critics as a new literary star, the logical successor of Tolstoi. The book dealt with the squalid life of the author's early days of penniless wandering, and was pronounced a true picture.

Gorky's own life has been no easy one, but now, at the age of only 33, he has attained to a notable place, is accounted one of the most powerful of the younger writers. He was born in Nijni Nvogorod. His first lessons were taught him from a prayer book, his father the teacher, but soon he was fatherless and teacherless, a future spreading before him of nothing but hard work. He served awhile as cobbler's apprentice, apprentice to a draughtsman, then to a painter of scriptural pictures, next as a scullion on a Volga steamer; it was as scullery boy he again had chance to take up reading. Hungry for more learning, he sought work in a university town, but found education not easily to be had by a penniless boy. It was now, at the age of 15, the thought of suicide appealed to him, but he overcame the temptation to give up, and, after struggling at half a dozen different modes of employment, at last he found literature a means of obtaining the daily bread.

Whilst wandering around the country, he did proselytizing in the cause of constitutional liberty, and followed these lines when the public showed desire for his writings. Several times he was remanded to jail as an agitator, but the Bitter One kept on in his path as reformer. For a number of years he has been openly associated with the revolution-

MAXIME GORKY.

ary cause, but so far has escaped severe punishment because of being such a personage in the literary world. Just the other day what a stir was made in Europe generally when it was rumored he was to suffer death at the hands of the government, and the petition gotten up in his behalf was signed by many distinguished men of letters.

Father Gopon one hesitates to place with these men of high place in literature, but his revolutionary pamphlets are widely read. He began to print them on a little handpress in a Moscow garret, but now they are printed in the centers of the Russian educational propaganda in Berne, Stuttgart and London, and from these places distributed by a corps of colporteurs. Gopon comes of peasant stock; like Gorky, suffered from early poverty.

We shall now turn to a revolutionary of high degree, Prince Kropotkin, who, a member of the old Moscow aristocracy, is of more ancient stock than the house of Romanoff—it was said Kropotkin had a better right to the throne than did Alexander II. But though of bluest blood, the prince is intensely democratic; anarchistic, in fact. He has written extensively on anarchism, and is considered by anarchists generally "the leading exponent of their ideas." He has written two books, one of which has been translated into many languages, and has sent forth numberless pamphlets and tracts. A favorite in court circles in St. Petersburg, standing high with the czar, this favored son of fortune was influenced to renounce position and wealth by witnessing the horrors of Russian prisons and by coming in contact with the misery of the poverty-stricken peasants of Finland. He has been twice imprisoned—two years in Russia and three years in France—but it is thought he never in his life advocated or took part in conspiracy. He stands high as an explorer, as a scientist, and preeminently as a humanitarian.

CHRISTOPHER WEBSTER.

BEAR DOG'S STRATEGY.

This Well-Trained Animal Can Give Some Military Experts a Few Ideas.

"Talking about strategists, the well-trained bear dog can make all kinds of rings around some of the military experts we are reading about in these days," said a man from Arkansas, according to the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

"Back in Arkansas some years ago I had occasion to give some little attention to one of these humble strategists, and under unfavorable conditions, too, from the standpoint of the dog, for he was very old, almost blind and didn't have a tooth in his head. Bob was a brindle dog, medium size, and had the most pugnacious temperament I have ever known. He was the leader always of the pack, and no better leader could have been found, for he was the most successful dog in a bear campaign I ever knew. Dogs that fought with him followed him strictly in his methods. His plan was to limit the zone of operations to the smallest posible radius, and it was a conspicuous fact in his career that no bear ever succeeded in getting more than 100 yards from the point of the first attack. He simply could not get away from Bob and the dogs that followed him. Bob fought in a circle, and for an evident purpose.

"Instead of going in any one straight direction the bear would keep whirling around in a circle. Bob's plan in limiting the zone of operations was to make relief quicker. When we heard him open up we knew we could go straight to him, as the bear would not be allowed to make much progress, and we never made any mistake about this. Sometimes we would watch him for awhile before wading into the slaughter, just for the simple grandeur of the performance, the ease and cleverness with which he directed his forces."

DEFECTIVE PAGE