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LONDON, ONT., FRIDAY, DEC. 25.

THE NATIVITY.

And there were the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round them about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

St. Luke, II, 8-20.

THE NAVAL CONFERENCE.

The international naval conference which for the past two weeks has been in session in London, has some weighty matters before it, the settlement of which would greatly lessen the danger of neutral nations becoming involved in a war to which they were not originally parties.

At the last session of the Hague international court a movement was inaugurated for the creation of an international prize court, but it was found that an international code of law must be adopted before such a project could be carried out. To draft such a code is one of the objects of the London conference.

The principle that the private property of belligerent nations, excepting absolute contraband, is properly exempt from capture, appears to be that most favored. But that there is a conflict of doctrine and practice which might easily be the occasion for serious complications, was clearly shown during the progress of the Russo-Japanese war.

At the outset, Russia gave notice of her intention to treat certain articles, a long list of which was furnished, as absolute contraband of war and subject to capture or confiscation wherever found. In the list were included materials which cannot fairly be considered contraband unless they are distinctly and explicitly intended for a hostile use.

For instance, rice, if intended for the relief of a beleaguered fortress, would be indisputably contraband, but as to whether the commodity should be treated as contraband absolutely there is a difference of opinion. Such a doctrine, if generally followed, might possibly expose Great Britain to the peril of starvation.

During the late war in the East, a British vessel carrying merchandise which was not admittedly contraband was seized on the high seas by the Russians and destroyed.

The coaling question is another which there is hope of settling. According to the British practice, a belligerent is allowed only enough coal to take him to the next homeward port, but Rojevstevsky succeeded in getting all the coal he needed up to the close of his voyages.

The rights of belligerents in neutral waters form another controversial question. The French Government during the Russo-Japanese conflict, construed the obligations of neutrality with the greatest leniency, permitting Russian warships to loiter for months in the sea water under French jurisdiction, to take on stores and coal in the Bay of Annam, and to get into fighting condition. Quite different was the German method of procedure. When the disabled Russian battleship Czarevitch took refuge at Tung-Chau the German authorities gave its commander the alternative of leaving within twenty-four hours or of submitting to be dismantled, or being interned.

When the remnant of Rojevstevsky's fleet reached Manila, a similar rule was enforced.

It is gratifying to learn that there is a prospect of the conference in London arriving at a mutually satisfactory agreement on some, if not all, of these vexed questions.

HON. JAMES YOUNG AND THE SENATE.

The death of Hon. Samuel Mermer, of New Hamburg, leaves a vacancy in the Senate for the district embracing Waterloo and contiguous counties. The name of Hon. James Young, of Galt, is mentioned as his successor, and finds favor in influential circles. Mr. Young is one of the veterans of Canadian public life, and an interesting link with the pre-Confederation era. As far back as 1853, when a youth of 18, he purchased the Dumfries Reformer, giving his support to George Brown and the radical wing of the Liberal party. He was elected to represent South Waterloo in the House of Commons in 1867, and was returned in 1872, and again in 1874. Although defeated in the Liberal rout of 1878, he entered the Provincial Legislature in 1879 as the member for North Brant; was re-elected in 1883, and became provincial treasurer in the Mowat cabinet. Illness obliged him to resign office a few months later, and he declined re-nomination in 1886. He has been president of the Associated Mechanics' Institutes of Ontario, of the Sabbath School Association of Ontario, and of the Provincial Reform Association—to name only a few of his interests outside his native town, which he has served also in various capacities.

Since his retirement from active politics, Mr. Young has continued to wield his pen with good effect. He is a frequent contributor to the press, and his comments on public questions have derived unusual weight from his long experience of affairs. He has also produced several historical works, notably a volume of reminiscences covering a period of 50 years—a very valuable record of events and personages contemporary with himself, of which few surviving Canadians have been such close spectators. All these are qualifications for the upper chamber. Mr. Young is still vigorous in mind and body, and the dignity of a senatorship would fittingly crown his long and useful career. He has deserved the honor, and his appointment would give general satisfaction in Western Ontario.

LABOR AND HIGHER EDUCATION.

The relation of the English working classes to the universities is a matter which for a year has been under consideration of a joint committee consisting of seven representatives each of Labor and the University of Oxford. The committee has just made public its report, which is engaging much attention.

Great Britain, like Canada, has many ambitious boys, sons of poor but industrious parents, who by close application to their studies in the public schools, eventually find themselves in the university pursuing the ordinary curriculum, their aim being to secure an arts degree, gain an entrance into a learned profession and thus work themselves out of the social class into which they were born. The joint committee would change this, and declares its decree to be "not that men should escape from their class, but that they should remain in it and raise its whole level." In other words, the committee would have brought about the development of a democratic education and an educated democracy. "If," says the report, "the eleven millions who weave our clothes, build our houses, and carry us safely on our journey, demand a higher education than they at present receive, it is in order that they may face with wisdom the unsolved problems of their present status, instead of that they may escape to a different status."

As a solution of the problem, the committee proposes a new and organic relation between Oxford University and the industrial classes, by means of which young men belonging to the latter, who qualify themselves in their own locality by study in tutorial classes, superintended by the university conjointly with representatives of their own, may be enabled to enter the university and study there for a period of at least two years, not as a candidate for the ordinary degrees, but as aspirants to some one or other of the university diplomas for proficiency in certain branches of study.

A beginning has already been made with putting this plan into practice. A joint committee representing the working classes and the university extension classes has arranged for the report, and during the present winter these will be conducted in eight localities. This arrangement is also made that the university authorities have agreed to admit tutorial class students to the diploma course in economics, and are also preparing to include political science in the diploma course for economics. In addition, the university is being urged to establish a lectureship in political theory and institutions, that subject being considered one likely to be of special use to the class of students whose interests the joint committee has sought to advance. The whole movement is highly significant of the new spirit which is leavening the working classes of Great Britain. It is a hopeful sign when the Labor organizations are realizing the value of higher education by sending their brightest men to the universities to qualify for public life and political leadership.

WHAT WORRIED HIM.

(Cleveland Plaindealer.)
"Maud told me to call her father 'old man.' She said he'd like it."
"Did he like it?"
"Never mind about that." I'm busy wondering why Maud told me to do it."

CRUEL MAN.

(Judy.)
"What we want is more plain speaking," cried the suffragette lover. "And not so many plain speakers," said some unmanly brute in the crowd."

DO NOT SHOVEL SNOW.

(Toronto News.)
No lawyer, doctor, merchant, newspaper editor or other wealthy person should be seen shovelling his own snow this winter. There are hundreds of poor men in the city who want the job, and the few cents it will bring them. They need the money.

THE LOWLY HEN.

(Collier's Weekly.)
I'm for the hen, the lowly hen: She lays an egg today and then Tomorrow goes about her biz Lays another. Cluck on cluck! Day after day with endless pluck; Happy if in solitude She may at last hatch out a brood Of fluffy chick with yellow legs. To become hens and lay more eggs.

She knows no holidays at all, Nor Sundays. At the claret call Of Mr. Rooster, with a lurch, She lunges down with the high perch, And, once more a footing firm, She goes to hunt the early worm. She takes a worm, a piece of grit, A bug, and makes a meal of it. That will pass muster until met In scramble, fry, or omelette.

And does she rest with one egg laid, And lounge around beneath the shade Of some tall tree? Not much! Not she! She seems the shade of fern and tree, And across shaded bits and sun She keeps the bug world on the run. And scratches with her little feet Earn-yard and garden, lane and street, And with her bill doth search and poke The stuff for albumen and yolk.

Egg after egg, day after day, In unobtrusive, cheerful way, And when her laying life is done, She lounges not in shade of sun. But with a rush that rustles mock She lays her head upon the block, And the place of residence of some boarding-house feast, shows her love.

For humankind in death. Brave hen! Example for roosters and men!

TORONTO'S POOR TALKERS.

(Toronto Telegram.)
Toronto samples of after-dinner oratory are supplied by speakers who are almost unanimously unprepared. All these local epidemics of impromptu verbosity are due to the fact that too many speakers are invited to address the assembled banqueters. Thus no single speaker is allowed time enough to finish his high resolve to prepare an oration worthy of the occasion.

DROWNED BY BEER IN HIM.

(Philadelphia Record.)
Literally drowned by the beer in him was the fate of Houston J. Ware, found unconscious early in Thursday morning. That he was drowned on dry land and not poisoned—a suspicion whereby hangs this result—was the verdict of a post-mortem examination.

On the theory that Ware was poisoned, physicians undertook to pump him out. "I surmise that the pump actually got down his trachea into his lungs," said Dr. William Becker. "His stomach was so full of beer and other liquids that these were forced into his lungs, and he died of the lungs," said Dr. Kleinhaus. "His lungs were full of the fluid, and this caused him to drown."

FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS FROM JOHN MILTON.

(Exchange.)
Milton, the poet, the three hundredth anniversary of whose birth was celebrated last week, coined many phrases which have become a familiar part of the English language. The following are only a few of these phrases:

"Trip it as you go on the light fantastic toe."
"The cynosure of neighboring eyes."
"The busy hum of men."
"Unkind sweetness long drawn out."
"The need of some religious tear."
"To scorn delights and live laborious days."
"That last infinity of noble minds."
"Fresh woods and pastures new."
"Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven."
"The gorgeous East."
"That bad eminence."
"His tongue dropped manna."
"A pillar of state."
"Sweet, reluctant, amorous delay."
"The gay notes that people the sunbeams."

"Long is the way and hard that out of hell leads up to light."
"He for God only, she for God in him."
"The cricket's cry on the summer eve."
"The tale of Troy divine."
"A dim religious light."
"Where more is meant than meets the ear."
"They also serve who only stand and wait."
"License them mean when they cry liberty."
"Make those whose appear the better reason."
"Justify the ways of God to men."
"The height of this great argument."
"Out of good still to find means of evil."
"The mind is its own place, and in itself can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven."

"Which as autumnal leaves that strew the brook's fallow, so they are blown about by the wind."
"Faithful love among the faithless, faithful only be."
"Tears such as angels weep."
"Who overcomes by force hath overcome but half his foe."
"Evil, be thou my good."
"Imparadise in one another's arms."
"Not to know me argues yourselves unknown."
"This universal frame."
"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."

INDISPUTABLE.

(Chicago News.)
Sapleigh—I am aw-such poor company for myself, doncher know.
Miss Cutting—Another case of "two souls with but a single thought."

TRAPPING MOTHS BY ELECTRIC LIGHT.

(From Chambers' Journal, Dec. 3.)
In order to mitigate the pest of caterpillars, which is wreaking such havoc in defoliating the forests of Germany, a novel experiment has been made. The irresistible fascination of the candle-flame to the moth is well known, and entomologists are aware that street electric arc lamps afford a happy hunting ground. The German authorities have turned this point to advantage. An electric light is erected in a suitable tower, with powerful reflectors which project the light in two well-defined rays upon the dark background of the forest, half a mile away. In much the same way as the beams of a searchlight. The result is described as remarkable. The hordes of brown moths that lay eggs, producing caterpillars in such enormous quantities, dazzled by the light, come fluttering hasty towards its source. As they near the lamps they are caught in the vortex set up by the revolving fans, are sucked up and swept through the funnel into a suitable receptacle, subsequently being destroyed in the furnaces. So eminently successful was the first night's experiment, when some three thousand moths were caught, that another similar installation is being erected.

Though the defoliation of the trees may not be completely arrested, this whole sale destruction of the plague will certainly result in a heavy diminution in the ranks of the caterpillars, and the timber will be saved.

Clémentine's.

"The Time, the Place and the Girl" Today.

With the prestige of having enjoyed the longest run ever scored by any theatrical offering in Chicago, "The Time, the Place and the Girl" comes to the Grand today for two presentations.

"The Time, the Place and the Girl" is the result of the joint efforts of Joseph E. Howard, Will M. Hough and Frank R. Adams, whose prolific mill has turned out "The Umpire," "The Girl Question," "A Stubborn Cinderella," "The Honeymoon Trail," "The Land of Nod," "The Isle of Bong Bong," and other successes. "The Time, the Place and the Girl" has proved, however, the most successful in both the matter of runs and popularity. Arthur Dunn, a comedian who has won distinction in the musical comedy field, heads the cast.

Lillian Russell.

George Broadhurst and George V. Hobart, who collaborated in the writing of the racing comedy, "Wildfire," in which Lillian Russell will be seen at the Grand tomorrow evening, worked jointly for the first time on that play. The dramatic situations were outlined and developed by Mr. Broadhurst and the racing atmosphere and local color, which is such a striking feature of the second act, were contributed by Mr. Hobart. The fact has given rise to a mistaken idea that "Wildfire" is an elaboration of the Hobart one-act play, "Peaches." There is nothing in common between them, but Mr. Hobart has written so truthfully of the race-track in both that a mistaken connection was established by some of the critics.

Judging from the demand for seats, Miss Russell will be greeted by a capacity house.

"The Man on the Box."

Rebecca Warren and her company on Monday evening at the Grand will present a very complete and adequate production of "The Man on the Box." This is a bright modern comedy. The dramatic situations were outlined and developed by Mr. Broadhurst and the racing atmosphere and local color, which is such a striking feature of the second act, were contributed by Mr. Hobart. The fact has given rise to a mistaken idea that "Wildfire" is an elaboration of the Hobart one-act play, "Peaches." There is nothing in common between them, but Mr. Hobart has written so truthfully of the race-track in both that a mistaken connection was established by some of the critics.

Judging from the demand for seats, Miss Russell will be greeted by a capacity house.

"Divorce."

The success of "Divorce," which plays a return engagement at the Grand on Tuesday evening, has been attested all over the country.

Miss Mary Terry's great emotional power, her full and flowing delivery of Gabrielle Darras, while the Cupid's splendid art has never been seen to better advantage than in the thoroughness of her performance. Her step with success, a career marked at every turn by her success, a career marked at every turn by her success, a career marked at every turn by her success.

After the show at Bennett's yesterday afternoon Manager George Driscoll, of Bennett's Theatre, was called into the office of Treasurer Logan and headed with a very handsome gold-headed umbrella or the sum of the orchestra and stage hands of the theatre. Mr. Logan expressed the pleasure all had experienced in being associated with Mr. Driscoll, and they wished him a very happy Christmas and a very happy new year.

Mr. Driscoll made a brief reply, in which he thanked them for their courtesy, and hoped that the pleasant relationships that had existed in the past would continue.

Bylaw No.

To Provide for the Issue of \$5,000 Debentures for the Purpose of Providing a Hospital for Consumptives.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the purchase of lands and buildings in or near the City of London for a hospital for consumptives, or for the purchase of the necessary buildings for a hospital for consumptives, the cost whereof will not exceed \$5,000.

AND WHEREAS, by an act passed by the Legislature of the Province of Ontario, in the sixth year of His Majesty's reign, and chapter 76, and known as "The City of London Act, 1906," it is enacted that the limit of the borrowing power of the said corporation shall, notwithstanding the provisions of any act or law to the contrary, be fourteen per centum of the assessed value of the whole rateable property of the said City of London, as shown by the last revised assessment roll for the time being of the said city.

AND WHEREAS it is by section 23 of said act authorized that the said corporation may, in order to provide for the purpose of the said act, borrow money by the issue of debentures, as fixed by the next preceding section, has been reached, the said corporation, except such portion thereof as is payable by the said corporation at large, shall not be reckoned as such indebtedness, but shall be excluded in computing the same.

AND WHEREAS the amount of the whole rateable property in the City of London, according to the last revised assessment roll thereof, is the sum of \$32,827.

WARD NUMBER ONE.

DIVISION NO. 1.
At the City Hall, by Pinley M. Perrin, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 2.
At Mrs. Rowe's house, 254 King street, by J. M. Parsons, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 3.
At Mrs. Fitzgibbon's house, 334 Ridout street, by T. G. Hegman, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 4.
At Mr. William Smith's house, 212 Horton street, by Joseph Graham, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 5.
At Mrs. Burton's house, 275 Talbot

STORE CLOSED TODAY—CHRISTMAS DAY.

Peace on Earth
Good Will Toward Men

CHRISTMAS DAY—Day of sacred memories—of goodwill, and of—happy—family gathering around the feasting table. May every home in this fair city find its larder full, may the spirit of good fellowship pervade every home, and may the family ties there, so happily renewed, remain unbroken to enjoy another Christmas.

Let young and old enter into the spirit of this festive occasion, and by their united effort shed the mellow glow of happiness and contentment around every fireside.

For the liberal patronage we have enjoyed through this holiday season we thank our patrons one and all, and extend to them the compliments of the season and

A Very Merry Christmas

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO.

AND WHEREAS the amount of the general debt of the city, exclusive of its indebtedness for waterworks purposes, or the said sum of \$24,999.38, and exclusive of its local improvement debt, except such portion thereof as is payable by the said corporation at large, amounts to \$2,354,621.1, of which no portion of the principal of interest is due.

AND WHEREAS the said sum of \$5,000 is the debt intended to be created by this bylaw.

AND WHEREAS it will require the sum of \$212.50 to be raised annually for a period of thirty years, the currency of the debentures to be issued under and by virtue of this bylaw, to pay the interest of the said debt, and the sum of \$36.82 to be raised annually during the same period for the forming of a sinking fund for the payment of the debt created by this bylaw, making in all the sum of \$248.32 to be raised annually.

AND WHEREAS it is necessary that such annual sum of \$248.32 shall be raised and levied in each year during the said period of thirty years, by a special rate sufficient therefor on all the rateable property in the City of London.

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the City of London, as follows: That it shall be lawful for the Mayor of the City of London and the City Treasurer to cause any number of debentures to be made for such sum of money as may be required for the purposes aforesaid, either in sterling money of Great Britain or in lawful money of Canada, payable in gold coin, for not less than one hundred dollars currency or twenty pounds sterling each, and not exceeding in the whole the said sum of \$5,000, and the said debentures shall be signed by the seal of the said corporation and be signed by the mayor and treasurer.

2. The said debentures shall bear date the thirty-first day of June A. D. 1909, and shall be made payable on the thirtieth day of June A. D. 1939, in Canada, Great Britain or elsewhere, and shall have attached to them coupons for the payment of interest.

3. The said debentures shall bear interest at the rate of four and one-quarter per centum per annum from the date thereof, which interest shall be payable half-yearly on the thirtieth days of June and December in each year at the place where the said debentures are made payable.

4. During the currency of the debentures to be issued under the authority of this bylaw, the sum of \$250 shall be raised annually for the payment of the interest on the said debentures, and the sum of \$36.82 shall be raised annually for the purpose of forming a sinking fund for the payment of the principal of the said loan of \$5,000 in thirty years, making in all the sum of \$286.82 to be raised annually as aforesaid, and a special rate in the dollar upon all the assessed value of all the rateable property in the City of London over and above all other rates and taxes, and which said rate shall be sufficient to produce in each year the said sum of \$286.82, shall be annually levied and collected in each and every year during the currency of the said debentures.

5. The said Mayor and Treasurer may cause the said debentures or a sufficient amount thereof, to be sold or hypothecated, or may authorize the said debentures, or any portion thereof, to be purchased or taken as for a temporary or permanent investment of the sinking fund of the City of London, and the proceeds thereof, after providing for the discount, if any, and the expenses of the negotiations and sale thereof, shall be applied for the purpose above specified and for no other purpose.

6. This bylaw shall take effect on, from and after the passing thereof.

7. That the votes of the electors of the said City of London will be taken on this bylaw on Monday, the 4th day of January A. D. 1909, commencing at the hour of 9 o'clock in the morning, and continuing until 5 o'clock in the afternoon, at the several polling places and by the several deputy returning officers herein named, who shall be the deputy returning officers, that is to say:

WARD NUMBER ONE.

DIVISION NO. 1.
At the City Hall, by Pinley M. Perrin, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 2.
At Mrs. Rowe's house, 254 King street, by J. M. Parsons, deputy returning officer.

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At Mrs. Fitzgibbon's house, 334 Ridout street, by T. G. Hegman, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 4.
At Mr. William Smith's house, 212 Horton street, by Joseph Graham, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 5.
At Mrs. Burton's house, 275 Talbot

WARD NUMBER TWO.

DIVISION NO. 15.
At Mr. G. Korde's house, 70 Carling street, by J. M. Gunn, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 16.
At Mr. L. Robson's house, 231 Queen street, by W. H. Birrell, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 17.
At Mr. A. O. Newell's house, 501 Richmond street, by A. T. Essey, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 18.
At Elmer Luck's house, 567 Richmond street, by H. B. Gahan, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 19.
At Mrs. Rollins' house, 128 John street, by W. P. Nolan, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 20.
At Mr. S. S. Rogers' house, 729 Richmond street, by S. Friendship, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 21.
At Mr. W. Eberle's house, 37 Grosvenor street, by A. Dawson, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 22.
At St. George's schoolhouse, Empress avenue, by William Moore, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 23.
At Mr. W. J. Cook's house, 107 Wilson avenue, by R. J. O'Neil, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 24.
At Mr. R. Culbert's house, 1 Kensington street, by W. T. Mullins, deputy returning officer.

WARD NUMBER THREE.

DIVISION NO. 25.
At Mrs. A. McDonald's house, 236 Colborne street, by John Tanton, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 26.
At Mr. John A. Mitchell's house, 628 York street, by S. J. Bell, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 27.
At Mr. T. Atkinson's house, 430 Simcoe street, by J. A. Carrothers, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 28.
At Mrs. Barlow's house, 538 Horton street, by E. Fitzmaurice, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 29.
At Mrs. Steele's house, 546 Grey street, by T. Cousins, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 30.
At Mr. W. Frick's house, 470 Hill street, by T. Cole, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 31.
At Mrs. Sweeney's house, 427 Nelson street, by W. W. Bowden, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 32.
At Mr. John Ramey's house, 500 South street, by G. Rose, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 33.
At the East End Town Hall, by J. A. Weir, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 34.
At Mrs. Gray's house, 1054 Mary street,

DIVISION NO. 35.

At Mrs. Malone's house, 1039 Frances street, by E. Barrett, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 36.
At Mr. E. A. Bodfield's house, 705 Grey street, by R. Westby, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 37.
At Mr. James E. Brown's house, 241 Hamilton road, by R. Logan, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 38.
At Mr. James Shiel's house, 881 Van street, by A. Tuitt, deputy returning officer.

WARD NUMBER FOUR.

DIVISION NO. 39.
At Mrs. Bell's house, 400 Queen's avenue, by W. H. Sanborne, deputy returning officer.

DIVISION NO. 40.
At Mr. James