

# The Free Press, LONDON, ONT.

Saturday, January 1, 1898.

## NEW YEAR HOMILIES.

Who, that thinks of the advent of a new year, fails to become a little sentimental? In youth, the years can not fly fast enough; in early manhood or womanhood they should not go quite so rapidly; when we get up into the forties and the fifties, we are surprised at the rapid flow of time, month chasing month, and year following year in rapid succession. When "old age" comes at three score and ten, the ancient will tell you that "he never knew time pass so quickly;" arrived at 80 or upwards, senility takes possession. Early incidents in life are vivid, but later events are not so marked in the memory, so your aged man will inform you. And yet with a good constitution many men at 80 are as good as some at 60, as witness the "grand old man," William Ewart Gladstone, who completed his 88th birthday on Wednesday last. Of course Mr. Gladstone's case is phenomenal, but it illustrates a remarkable type of the tenacity of life accompanied by vigorous physical and mental powers.

Time is one of those things which cannot be deferred. We only know or become sensible of it through certain processes of nature which require it for their being carried on and perfected, and towards which it may therefore be said to bear a relation. The year has very reasonably become the unit of our ordinary reckonings of time, when any larger space is concerned; above all, in the statement of the progress and contemplation of human life. The anniversary of the event—the new year—therefore makes an appeal to our feelings.

So it is,—good-bye old 1897; welcome young 1898! "Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest." And what will the new year bring to us, is often the thought that crosses the mind on the first day of January. Those who believe in fortune hope it may bring them "good luck." Those who whistle for good luck fail to perceive that most people are themselves the makers of their "luck" good or bad though it be. Then, the advent of the new year is the time for reflection on the past, and for making projects of amendment for the future. Who among us can regard the past year with unalloyed satisfaction; there is always something wanting, some disappointment to temper the joy. Will 1898 be in any way better spent than the old year which went out last night?

But apart from moral reflections which must come to every mind not altogether case-hardened, there is to be found renewed hope and joy in hailing the new year. Let the past go, enjoy the present, and hopefully look forward to the future. It is the time for general greeting and the expression of good wishes for those we love or care for. The greeting, or offering of good will to those we may meet—"a happy new year to you"—rings cheerily on the frosty air. In many of the European countries New Year's day is regarded with more pomp and circumstance than it is with us; often festivals of a popular character take the place of the ordinary observances of every-day life on the first of January. In many cities and towns the wrangling over municipal offices mars the pleasure of the occasion; might not the municipal elections take place in November?

It is also the season for gifts, though Christmas anticipates the custom in many respects. Historical records declare that the Greeks transmitted to the Romans, and the Romans to the early Britons, this custom which has prevailed ever since. It is also an ancient history that our forefathers used to bribe the magistrates with gifts on New Year's day—a custom abolished in England in the year 1290, but even down to the reign of James I., the monarchs received their "tokens." But this is old political talk. Thirty years ago, the custom of making New Year's calls, was much in vogue, but this pleasant mode of greeting friends has fallen much into disusage of late. There is little doubt that New Year's calling was originally introduced into America from Japan.

Anyway, he is the churlish man who would on this anniversary display indisposition to kindness or courtesy. Let us therefore entertain a benevolent feeling towards all mankind, even to our enemies, real or fancied, if we have any; let us cement friendships and heal quarrels or misunderstandings, and commence the new year with a clean slate. In conclusion, we desire most cordially and heartily, to wish our subscribers, patrons and friends—

"A HAPPY NEW YEAR."

## BY-WORDS ON THE BY-LAW.

Regarding the by-law for \$70,000, it is noticed that its advocates have only become reconciled to the present proposal from the fear of remaining still; they have no marked enthusiasm either for the site or the plans beyond feeling that it is the best for the present in sight, but most of them would be secretly glad were the old Hospital not to be tinkered with, but a new one built outright somewhere, anywhere, so long as it was new. The chief reason that reconciles them to the present project is the so-called useless sacrifice of an asset worth \$35,000, in case of removal elsewhere. This sum is the estimated value of the old Hospital as it stands. What the value remaining will be after the Long Ward and other portions have been torn down, and the central part reduced to a shell in order to be reconstructed into living rooms for the staff, who shall say? But this is a very large ingredient of the case, when the asset is valued at \$35,000. It is not told

that more than half of it will have to be demolished for the purposes of the new buildings, yet it is the value after such partial demolition, and not the present status, that must be weighed as an asset in considering the amount of sacrifice and the general financial aspect of the By-law and its proposals.

If the various clergymen of the city have been appealed to to recommend the By-law from their pulpits on Sunday, as has been stated, it is an attempt to slide in by a side door, an influence which would be better out of the muddle, for the only effect would be to still further antagonize and embitter the feelings that have been most unfortunately engendered by alleged deceptions at the outset. Besides, electors may object to be instructed by their ministers how to vote in a matter that is purely municipal and secular, and it would be a precedent in Protestants to do the very thing which they feel so free to condemn in another great branch of the Christian Church, viz.:—To interfere in purely governmental questions as they come before the electors.

Upon the necessity of better hospital accommodations there are hardly two opinions. When there was a prospect that the end would be attained by a generous outpouring of private munificence, it was hailed as a grand way of securing a Jubilee memorial. But this movement failed, because of the apathy of those who regarded the Hospital as a municipal institution purely, to be erected and maintained by general taxation. The matter was then pushed from this point of view, but was opposed by influential persons on the ground that the funds could not be raised. The Mayor reminded the advocates of the measure that the limit of the city's borrowing power under the Municipal Act had been already reached, and that if a by-law were to be passed, the money could not be obtained without special enabling legislation. The bill before the Assembly for this purpose was so worded that the money could be used, irrespective of a vote of the ratepayers, but on attention being called to it, the words were struck out. The matter had thus got into such a muddle that not one in ten professed to understand the question, and even now all that the ratepayers have definitely before them from any authorized source, is the set of plans which the Trust caused to be drawn.

Another ingredient of the case is the question, still unsettled, what part the County Council will be willing to take in the scheme. On being appealed to the Council left the matter over indefinitely, and at the present outlook the city is proposing to shoulder all the burden, trusting to the future to make a suitable arrangement with the county. It would be all right if we proposed to hold our rural friends at arms length, and to deny them any voice in the hospital privileges or management. But is this the correct way of dealing with them? Should they not be treated as equitable partners from the outset upon a basis definitely arranged?

Most satisfactory of all would be the general accord of the citizens upon a scheme which could be divested of all rancor or semolence of partisanship. So much feeling has been stirred up in different quarters, so many things have been said of the present institution, which have been conveniently unsaid, by interested parties, so many diverse views have been expressed on the entire matter, and on so many grounds, that no matter how good the new buildings might be in utility and appearance, they would be an eyesore to a large number and a bone of contention for a long time to come. It would be an advantage, in this view, were the feelings and resentments allowed to cool, and all unite once more with sentiments purified, as it were by fire, to the good end that all are interested in.

By that time the mood may be so enlarged and liberalized, and the city's financial position so much advanced, that even a larger and still better scheme would be not only welcome, but demanded. The rate upon \$70,000 is a trifle, and five or ten cents added to the rate per \$1,000 would not stand in the way in presence of a united movement. London is now on the up grade, with rapid improvement on all hands, in population, and all the material signs of wealth. It should have a new hospital, suitable to its probable standing twenty years hence, but to get it there should be none voting grudgingly or with any idea that what they are doing is a makeshift. It should be done, when 'tis done, in a way to make it a source of pride and pleasure to all citizens alike.

## ANOTHER HITCH IN THE I. C. R. EXTENSION.

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Another hitch is reported to have taken place in connection with the extension of the Intercolonial to this city. The event has been postponed from time to time, but it was understood that the trains would commence running into Montreal on January 1st. Now it is said that Mr. Blair wishes to have assurance from the Quebec members that they will support the making of the Canada Eastern Railway part of the Intercolonial before he will agree to the Drummond County Railway.

## THE MAJESTIC'S PASSENGERS.

New York, Dec. 29.—Miss Maud Gonne, "The Irish Joan of Arc," sailed for Liverpool on the Majestic to-day. Miss Gonne expressed herself as highly pleased with her reception in this country. Other passengers on the Majestic were J. Pierpont Morgan, Mrs. Sanford, wife of Senator Sanford, of the Canadian Parliament, and her two daughters, the Misses Edna and E. M. Sanford; Edward Blake, M. P., and Mrs. Kinsley Magoun.

The frost bothers us, but our fly will drive it.

## THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

Interesting Address by Sir Charles Tupper at Regina.

## POSITION OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY.

Work of the Party in the Past Towards Building Up the Dominion Into National Greatness.

Winnipeg, Dec. 31.—Sir Charles Tupper, in reply to the address of the Regina Conservative Association, said that he hoped to have devoted six weeks to Manitoba and the Northwest, but he had been so busy, and his movements had been so rapid, in his endeavors to attract British capital to the mineral resources of Canada, that he had been obliged to forego that pleasure. From the investigations he had made in British Columbia he had been able to satisfy himself that great as had been his expectations or what that province could produce in the way of mineral wealth, he had altogether underrated the vast stores it possessed. He had also been able to investigate the condition of the Klondyke region and the Yukon district, and the best means of making them subservient to the Dominion of Canada, to which they belonged.

He could not deny himself the pleasure of referring for a few moments to the present position of the Liberal-Conservative party. No party ever occupied a prouder position than it occupies to-day. It was true they had been deprived of power, but he need not tell intelligent men that it was not because their opponents could present a policy or principles that were preferred by the country to theirs. When they were defeated it was not upon any broad issue in which the people of the Dominion were interested. Their opponents had tried every conceivable policy, besides the one which they had adopted, and when they got into power they violated every pledge and deserted every policy they had proposed. No one could say that of the Liberal-Conservative party. No one dared for a single moment to say that having obtained power on certain principles, the Liberal-Conservative party had not been faithful to those principles. They had told the people of Manitoba and the Northwest that their policy was a free trade policy, that every vestige of protection would disappear from the tariff, and that as a result the duty on agricultural implements should be swept away. Had they done it? No; and what was more, they had gone to the manufacturers at Montreal and told them not to be afraid of the Liberal party, that they would admit iron and coal free, the raw material for the implement makers, and so give them greater protection than ever. They had not taken the duties on implements, and they had given greater protection to the manufacturers than they had ever had before. He challenged any man to show that the Liberal-Conservative party had not fulfilled in office the duties which they had undertaken. He would only say that no one could put a finger on a single act. What was the result? He did not hesitate to say, and he spoke with confidence and the authority of a man with forty-two years of public life, that looking at the past, looking at the future in the light of the past, when the great electorate got an opportunity of dealing with this Government, there would be found the same result as after Mr. Mackenzie's show in the office. What was the cause of that Liberal downfall? It was because they showed an incapacity to govern. Everything they touched they bungled, and the electors said, "For God's sake let us have back the men who were in management of the country prospered."

That would happen again. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had not done anything towards making Canada a nation. The public records of the country, Hansard, and the statutes, showed it had been done not only with the Liberal party, but despite of the little opposition he could bring. Take the great question of Confederation and contrast that with what they saw at present: Sir Wilfrid Laurier's party never raised a finger to aid in the work of Confederation, they could not paralyze the efforts of Sir John A. Macdonald and others who were bringing it about. Sir Wilfrid Laurier belonged to the Rouge party, and fought to the death to prevent Confederation, and when he felt a degree of indignation when he found a man representing a party, a man with ability as an orator, so lost to all sense of what was due to those who had gone before him as never to name Macdonald, Cartier, or others. Why was that? It was because it was a tender subject, for the moment he mentioned them he was putting the seal upon himself and his party, who had done all they could to prevent the thing being done. That, however, was not all. Having obtained power, the people had a right to demand that the solemn pledge and promises should be kept and performed. Sir Charles Tupper showed how on the question of preferential trade, which rested the prosperity of Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier went from hustings to hustings, and said he was as much in favor of preferential trade as Sir Charles Tupper, and pledged himself to give it if he got into power. As one of the first acts of his Government, Sir Wilfrid Laurier promised he would send a commissioner to England to negotiate the matter with the Marquis of Salisbury. Did he do it? No. The country, when he himself went to England at the jubilee, as the Premier of Canada, he was met at the very threshold by the Duke of Devonshire with an offer of the preferential trade he had sworn to give, but which he turned his back on and rejected. Sir Charles Tupper, in his Toronto speech was an insult to intelligent men. His whole conduct on this question showed him to be one of the most dishonest and insincere of public men that ever presented Canada in England or anywhere else. Fortunately, when the time came for an appeal to the people the Liberal-Conservative party would not be in the position it was in in 1896. There would be no question of undermining and breaking up the party. The Liberal-Conservative party would stand as a strong and united phalanx, and shoulder to shoulder, and ready to serve their country even by aiding their opponents if necessary.

Sir Charles will be banqueted at Carberry on January 7th.

## WILL LIKELY FALL THROUGH.

Lindsay, Ont., Dec. 29.—The Lee alleged murder case, which was adjourned from last week, was continued at Cobocorn to-day. No new evidence of importance was brought out. A Government detective has been investigating the case, but has failed to throw any material light on the affair, and it will likely be dropped by the prosecution.

## AN ASSESSMENT JUDGMENT.

Important Decisions Given at Hamilton on Connected Points.

Hamilton, Dec. 31.—Judges Snider, Hardy and Hamilton have handed down their judgments on the appeal of the Canada Life Assurance Company against its assessment of \$62,000 on income, the assessment being confirmed and the costs given against the appellants. Judge Snider, while concurring in the judgment, said that he for opinions expressed by several judges in the appeal of the Confederation Life vs. Toronto he would have thought the proper sum to be assessed would be the interest received by the shareholders on the \$125,000 paid-up capital, to which he would have added one-fifth of the whole surplus, which is divided quinquennially between the shareholders and participating policy-holders as so-called profits. The \$62,000 is the interest received for the year 1897 from the investment of the reserve fund of the company, 60 per cent. at least of which the company is compelled, under an amended charter, to distribute among the participating policy-holders. The judgment, which was written by Judge Hardy, of Brantford, and signed by Judge Hamilton, of Milton, and Judge Snider, of this city, will probably be appealed against by the Canada Life Company.

Judgment in several other assessment appeals was given by Judge Snider. His Honor has reduced the assessment of the Hamilton Street Railway Company on poles, wires, etc., from \$88,000 to \$18,400 because they were all assessed in Ward 5 instead of being divided in the different wards. Next year the company, following the decision, will be assessed for \$70,000, fourteen miles of rails, etc., at \$5,000 a mile. At present the company is also assessed for \$50,000 personally. The Hamilton Gas Light Company's assessment of \$92,000 on mains, etc., is reduced to \$60,000, the company having placed the value at \$54,000 and the City Engineer at \$84,000. The appeal of the Hamilton & Milton Road Company against being assessed for \$60,000 personally, the money received for the sale of the company's roads, was sustained, the money having been divided among the shareholders before the assessment was made. The Canadian Order of Chosen Friends' appeal against an assessment for \$2,680 on income was allowed, and the Royal Templars' appeal against being assessed \$1,000 was dismissed, the interest derived from the reserve fund being held as assessable as income. The C. P. R. Telegraph Company's assessment on poles, wires, etc., was fixed at \$1,000. The total city assessment for 1898 will be increased over that of 1897 by \$750,000.

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## TORONTO.

Base as a Difficulty—Departure of Their Excellencies for Ottawa—An Alleged Diamond Thief.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—An application was filed this morning for the winding up of the "Army and Navy" retail dry goods store. Watson, Smoke & Masten filed the order for John Calder & Co., of Hamilton, one of the largest creditors. The application will be argued next week. It is said the liabilities amount to \$140,000. W. A. Thompson, who was a treasurer of the John Calder Company, is President also of the Army and Navy Company. The creditors are mainly in Montreal and England.

The Governor-General, Lady Aberdeen and party left the city after their six weeks' sojourn this morning by the 9:10 C. P. R. train for Ottawa. A large number of distinguished citizens had gathered to wish them adieu, among the number being Sir Oliver Mowat, Premier Hardy, Sir Frank Smith, Hon. J. M. Gibson, Dr. G. S. Ryerson and others. While their Excellencies were busy shaking hands the train pulled out, leaving them standing on the platform. It was hastily signalled and backed up again for the viceregal party.

An American named William Gross was arrested this morning at 61 McCaul street, charged with stealing \$3,000 worth of diamonds from merchants in Allentown, Pa. He appeared in the police court this morning and was remanded until Monday. Some months ago Gross started in business in Allentown in a small way, and borrowed a few diamonds on the plea that he had a customer who wanted to make a choice from them, promising to return them in an hour. Then he took the next train for the Suspension Bridge, and then came on here. He brought his wife and child with him, also a trunk containing the bulk of his own stock of jewellery. He will fight extradition.

## BELOW ZERO IN NEW YORK.

Saratoga, N. Y., Dec. 29.—The thermometer to-day dropped to nine degrees below zero at North Creek, 19 below at Saratoga, 12 below at Rouse's Point, and 15 degrees below at Blue Mountain Lake.

## A NURSE'S STORY.

Tells how she was cured of Heart and Nerve Troubles.

The onerous duties that fall to the lot of a nurse, the worry, care, loss of sleep, irregularity of meals soon tell on the nervous system and undermine the health. Mrs. H. L. Menzies, a professional nurse living at the Corner of Wellington and King Streets, Brantford, Ont., states her case as follows: "For the past three years I have suffered from weakness, shortness of breath and palpitation of the heart. The least excitement would make my heart flutter, and at night I even found it difficult to sleep. After I got Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills I experienced great relief, and on continuing their use the improvement has been marked until now all the old symptoms are gone and I am completely cured."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills cure Anaemia, Nervousness, Weakness, Sleeplessness, Palpitation, Throbbing, Faint Spells, Dizziness or any condition arising from Impoverished Blood, Disordered Nerves or Weak Heart.

Liver Pills

Streets

Streets

Streets

Streets

Streets

Streets

# KINGSMILL'S

# New Year's Presents

—THAT ARE—

Sensible,  
Serviceable,  
Economical,



Judicious,  
Attractive,  
Appreciable.

## Gloves.

Throughout the whole inventory of a Dry Goods Stock, perhaps no one thing strikes one as being a more desirable gift than Gloves. Our Ladies' Glove Department is the best assorted in the city. We are exclusive dealers in this district for the productions of four leading manufacturers. Ask to see our

MONARCH,  
CZARINA,  
IDEAL,  
DERBY.

All colors and sizes. Every pair guaranteed.

Ladies' Kid Gloves, odd sizes, at 25c.  
Ladies' Ox-blood Biaritz Gloves, at 50c.  
Ladies' 2-clasp Embroidered Gloves, at 75c.  
Ladies' 2-clasp Czarina, in white, pearl, brown, ox-blood, tan, brown and black, at \$1.10.  
4B Josephine, in tan and black, at \$1.25.  
Laced Gloves, colored and black, at \$1.25.  
Ladies' Emperor, heavy embroidery, white, pearl, tan, ox-blood, green, brown and black, at \$1.50.  
2-clasp Monarch, black, embroidery, fawn, tan, ox-blood and black, \$1.65.  
2-clasp Reindeer, grey and tan, \$1.65.  
1-clasp Novelty Gloves, in bright red, new blue, green, purple and violet, \$2.00.  
Misses' and Boys' Gloves in all sizes.  
Full stocks of Evening Gloves, in suede and glazie.  
Men's White Kid Gloves, 45c.  
Men's 2-clasp Kid Gloves, 75c.  
Men's Celebrated Derby Gloves, \$1.50.  
Men's Reindeer Gloves, \$1.75.  
Ladies' Ringwood Gloves, white and fancy, 12½c.  
Ladies' Cashmere Gloves, 12½c.  
Ladies' Double Wool Mitts, 25c.  
Ladies' Silk Mitts, 50c.  
Ladies' Silk Mitts, wool lined, 60c.  
Ladies' Kid Mitts, 30c.  
Ladies' Kid Mitts, 45c.  
Ladies' Antelope Mitts, fur tops, \$1.25.

## House Furnishings.

4-4 Chenille Table Covers, 90c.  
6-4 Chenille Table Covers, \$1.25.  
8-4 Tapestry Table Covers, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50.  
Chenille Curtains, double dado, heavy tassels, fringed, \$2.90 and \$3.55.  
Tapestry and Silk Portiere Curtains, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$6.25 and \$7.50.  
Door Mats, 40c, 50c, 60c, 75c and \$1.00.  
Hearth Rugs, in sets, \$3.45.  
Reversible Hearth Rugs, \$1.75, \$2.25 and \$2.65.  
White Saxony Blankets, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$2.75, \$2.90, \$3.00 and \$3.45.  
Carriage Lap Rugs, \$1.20, \$1.30, \$1.50 and \$1.75.  
Sateen Comforters, \$2.25, \$2.50 and \$3.25.  
Eiderdown Quilts, \$6.00, \$7.25, \$7.75 and \$11.75.

## Handkerchiefs.

Our assortment embraces over 1,000 dozen of all kinds, from 5c to \$5. Every one has been reduced. Our buyer took a whole day at the job of cutting the price—some lots one-quarter off, some one-third off and some one-half off. They are here for your inspection and sale. Ask for our special line of 25 and 39c.

54-inch Table Linens, 50c, for 30c.  
60-inch Table Linens, 60c, for 35c.  
64-inch Table Linens, 75c, for 45c.  
64-inch Bleached Table Linens, worth 50c, for 30c.  
64-inch Bleached Table Linens, worth 60c, for 40c.  
64-inch Bleached Table Linens, worth 90c, for 60c.  
Manufacturer's Stock of Napkins below cost.  
Fancy Doilies 5c, 6c, 8c and 10c.  
Tray Cloths, worth 25c, for 15c.  
Tray Cloths, worth 30c, for 25c.  
Tray Cloths, worth 40c, for 28c.  
Five o'Clock Tea Cloths, worth 70c, for 55c.  
Five o'Clock Tea Cloths, worth 90c, for 75c.  
Five o'Clock Tea Cloths, worth \$1.25, for 90c.  
Five o'Clock Tea Cloths, fringed, special at 68c.  
Few of those Quilts left, were \$1.10, now 84c.  
Special Line of Satin Damask Sideboard Scarfs, worth 75c, for 50c.

## Gents' Furnishings.

Four-in-Hand and Bows, at 12½c and 25c.  
New shape, with flowing ends, worth 50c, for 25c and 37½c each.  
Any made-up knot for 25c each.  
Braces, silk web, worth 25c, for 15c pair.  
Braces, silk web, 25c pair.  
New American Braces, 37½c, 50c and 75c pair.  
All-linen 4-ply Collars, all shapes, 2 for 25c.  
Cuffs, links or straight, 22c and 25c pair.  
Black or Colored Cashmere Socks, 15c pair or plain, at 25c, 30c, 45c and 57½c pair.  
Heavy Wool Socks, at 12½c, 15c, 17c, 18c, 23c pair.

# KINGSMILL'S