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THE RICHES OF OUR MINES.

THE NEED OF DEVELOPMENT, EXPLORATION AND CAPITAL.

More About the Port Arthur District—Recent Discoveries—Need of Roads and Rails—Assaying Should Be Cheaper—Approval of The World's Policy.

A week has passed since The World formulated the need of a Mining Policy for Ontario, and this journal continues to receive flattering endorsements of its views on this important subject. These are mainly in consonance with those which have already been published, but two special contributions have been made which are worthy of consideration.

The first is that the cost of assaying is deterrent. Many persons come across specimens which they and their neighbors have good reason to believe are valuable, but when from $5 to $10 and even more is charged for an assay this prevents the thing being done, and the public are kept in ignorance of the value, or it may be the worthlessness of the discoveries. It is suggested that the Government might, in connection with the School of Science, have cheap analyses made, which should be certified by one of the professors, which would be a decided advantage over the present private and expensive system.

Again, it is pointed out by a well-informed correspondent, that nearly every important scientific body in Ontario has endorsed the sentiment that something more effective should be done for the development of mining, the authorities being the Geological Survey itself, the Minister of the Interior at Ottawa, the Commissioner of Crown lands, Toronto, the Secretary of the Ontario Bureau of Industry, the Geological Survey of Montreal, the Canadian Institute, the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the Professors of the School of Practical Science, our chief mining and civil engineers, the Canadian and American mining journals, and many railway men, merchants, and investors.

Subjoined is another testimony to the richness and need of developing of the district of which Port Arthur is the centre.

A Rich District Which Needs Developing.

Mr. Arthur Hewey of Toronto-street, interviewed by The World, said:

I first became interested in the Port Arthur district about five years ago. Four years ago I took a trip on foot to all the mines of Port Arthur in which any development had been made. At that time the Rabbit, Mountain and Beaver mines were the only ones in which any work of consequence was being done, although there were a dozen mines which had been sunk to a depth of 5 or 10 feet, and work on a comparatively small scale was being carried on.

I thoroughly examined the opening in the Beaver mountain and estimated the future value of the mine at $7,000,000. I have seen that mine each year since, especially in detail last fall. I measured by pacing the distance across the very rich upshoot of mineral in each of the three levels, and was convinced, together with Mr. Sustersic, assayer and graduate of the Austrian School of Mines, that there was two or three million dollars' worth of ore which could be marketed at a cost of less than $500,000. I saw taken out in one day ore worth $15,000, and I see no reason to doubt that a million dollars in bullion will be got out of this mine in the ensuing year.

A new mine called Beaver Junior has just been opened out half a mile from the older workings. Its prospects are excellent. Much of the ore in the Beaver will be worth from $5000 to $10,000 per ton.

My own interests are principally north of White Fish Lake, where I have shares in several locations, in which I have become interested for the purpose of aiding in the development of the country. In one of them known as "R. 230," my co-partners and myself have done work to the value of $1500. This mine is now being transferred to an English syndicate headed by the Marquis of Huntley, who intend during the present year proceeding with the active development. If the original anticipations a 15-stamp mill will be erected.

Reporter: What about the roads in this district?

Mr. Hewey: One of the great difficulties in developing these mines is the want of good roads. I consider the neglect of the Ontario Government in this respect almost criminal. How can provisions—barrels of flour and pork—iron, picks, dynamite, steel, etc., be carried twenty or thirty miles over mere trails impassable for wagons or sleighs except at enormous expense? The Ontario Government has delayed the building of a mineral railroad for at least two years by refusing any subsidies on the pretext that as the road runs towards the boundary it is a Dominion work.

Reporter: But who gets the revenue from this district?

Mr. Hewey: Why, the Ontario Government get the revenue from the sale of land, and I do not believe they have spent on roads one-tenth of the proceeds of the land sold in the district.

Reporter: Is not the Ontario Government at the cost of the surveys?

Mr. Hewey: Not at all. These mines are in unsurveyed territory, and the explorer who finds a promising vein has to get the survey made at his own cost. In some cases the survey costs nearly as much as the land.

Reporter: Is the ore of this district pure?

Mr. Hewey: Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the treatment of these ores which are unlike those of any part of North America, resembling most some of the Mexican silver beds. It is said that there is an appreciable proportion of antimony, and there is just enough galena to enable the United States Government to interpose a tariff difficulty. Silver ores are admitted into the United States free of duty, but there has been a great deal of trouble because these ores, in which perhaps 90 per cent. was silver, were said to be mixed or impure. A deputation visited Washington in reference to this matter, and I do not know what the result has been.

There is great anxiety to have smelting works built at Port Arthur, which is a very favorable point, as coal can be delivered there as cheaply as in Toronto

Reporter: Is not the silver extracted by amalgamation?

Mr. Hewey: Much of the ore is crushed and the mineral particles separated by runners or concentration. Bricks of silver are made on the spot.

Sudbury Copper Mines.

The season may be said to be eventually closed for exploration of mineral lands, the ground being covered with snow from six to eighteen inches deep.

The supposed lull in mining interests has been taken advantage of by the knowing ones traveling through this section and making advantageous arrangements with outside capitalists who have acquired much which will in the near future prove a source of profit. If any indication may be had from the number of affidavits sworn to the Crown Lands Department must have reaped a rich harvest from the territory which a short time ago was pronounced worthless.

Sudbury is at the junction of the line to connect with the Sault Ste. Marie, which is now open. It is the centre of the mining district, and not only will be found to possess the copper spoken of by Mr. Mackay, but will also be found possessing all the precious metals, gold not excepted, which is now established by assayists to be a recognized fact.

A rumor had gone out that the mineral interest was dead here; such is far from the truth. In this township, McKim, there is not a single mineral lot but what has been entered for. The same applies to other townships, where there is the least indication of mineral wealth.

It is a gratifying assurance for the future development of the country that the Canadian Copper Company is not, even with its 5000 or 6000 acres secured, going to retain this monopoly, although in one instance it paid $30,000 for 160 acres.

Assayists have been here on behalf of Scotch and English capitalists, whose attention has been aroused, and will bring such an influx to this territory as will show the mining industry is yet in its infancy.

The International Mineral Company, with a capital of $240,000 is preparing to open up its gold lands. The Murray Copper Mine is under offer to a Scotch company, which is in treaty for the adjoining lot, which is found to possess a fair percentage of nickel, and another lot has assayed 19 per cent. copper, with traces of silver. Prior to the close of navigation the Canadian Copper Company made a shipment of 1000 tons copper ore to England. I have not yet heard the result.

Definite Information Required.

Editor World: For some time past the mining and mineral resources of Ontario have been worked and partly developed by a few enterprising capitalists, who have, either from the practical knowledge of the mineral wealth of the province or from geological theory, entered into speculations which have on several occasions brought the London agents of capitalists to Canada to examine and interest themselves in such properties. However, owing to an unexplained laxity on the part of the owners of these properties, the mining interests and almost inexhaustible mineral wealth of the province have not been developed in a way calculated to inspire the confidence of capitalists who are comparatively unacquainted with the country and the mineral formations peculiar to it. From personal knowledge I can say it is the decided opinion of many mining authorities, and of the first financiers of Austin-Friars and Threadneedle-street that could definite, reliable and unbiased information be gathered from the Canadian Government, or from an institution which should be a centre for mining information, relative to mines and minerals, then an illimitable supply of money for mining developments would flow into Canada to efficiently develop a property. Whereas at present these great interests are almost confined to Canadian cities and Canadian capital, and the result is a mine is floated with an inadequate capital, development commences, and before any tangible result is obtained the small capital is exhausted, and at the vital moment, when a result is within the grasp of the speculators, they "shut down," and the work that has cost so much is left to fill up with water, and the plant to indicate where another "bubble has burst." The writer can name dozens of properties that have gone the same way owing to the improvident and thoughtless way of commencing operations. The Canadian shareholders of Silver Islet, for instance.

Take these valuable concessions to the place where the money is, and where, if it can be proved—as it can be—that there is a chance of realizing a return, they will give all the money that is necessary for the efficient development of a legitimate speculation.

Toronto, Jan. 12. CHAS. M. DOBSON, M.E.

In Re Mining Bureau.

Editor World: The British Parliament some years ago desired to procure information about the mining resources of the Empire and set the necessary machinery in motion. Canada appeared to great disadvantage in the resultant report owing to the very meagre information the committee was able to obtain from the several provincial Governments. We lost a most magnificent opportunity to place our mining resources before the capitalists of Great Britain, and took a very back seat among the sister colonies and auxiliary kingdoms of the Empire in consequence. There would have been millions for Canada in an exhaustive report on our mineral wealth. People in England like the reports of their own Governments even if they are merely a rehash of other agencies for the collection of information, and naturally so.

Ottawa, Jan. 12, 1888. GEORGE JOHNSON.

Press Opinions.

From The Ottawa Journal.

The suggestion is made, and it is an excellent one, that the Ontario Government should establish a mining bureau for Ontario. The province is reasonably believed to be enormously rich in mineral wealth. Such a heritage should be carefully looked after.

From The Kingston News.

We must give The Toronto World credit for being pre-eminently a Canadian newspaper. It believes in Canada and seizes every opportunity to say a good word for the country and to make suggestions for its benefit. Of late it has been publishing a series of articles favoring a mining development in Ontario, and suggesting that the Ontario Government send mining engineers to make a systematic exploration of our mining districts, so that accurate and complete information concerning Ontario mines can be furnished to capitalists. The World's suggestion is a good one.

From The Owen Sound Advertiser.

The Toronto World suggests to the Ontario Government the adoption of an active mining policy for the province. The suggestion is a good one. The first thing that strikes one on passing from the south shore of Lake Superior to the north shore is the enormous difference between the two in mining activity. The north shore is said to be the richer in mineral wealth of the two, and yet the lonesomeness that prevails there is something appalling.

Look at the condition of things on the south shore of Lake Superior. The statistics therefrom should put Canadians, with even greater advantages than the Americans possess, to shame. The insignificant showing of Canadians, with inexhaustible resources, as compared even with the output from the south shore of Lake Superior, was most humiliating. If the Americans had control of our north shore we do not believe six months would pass till active steps were taken to turn its mineral resources to account.

From The Omemee Herald.

Now that Ontario's wealth in the form of lumber and timber is diminishing would it not be well to look to some other quarter for such natural wealth as may still be unworked? No doubt all Canada and particularly Ontario is rich in minerals. But what is really known of the value of our mines? Let our members spend their time by having a full discussion of our mines. Let them appoint a committee to report on the kind of ores, their location, how they may be reached, etc.

From The Warton Echo.

We think The World has struck the right nail on the head this time, and we hope it will keep hammering away until something be done to bring our vast mineral areas into public notice. By all means let us have a mining policy, even if it be the only practical work of the session.

From The Ontario Gleaner.

The Toronto World is engaged in the laudable effort of boosting the mineral wealth of the Dominion, and wants the Ontario Government to take some steps towards developing it. The World is on the right track, and is again to be complimented upon its efforts to advance the interests of Canada.

From The Port Dover Maple Leaf.

Every true citizen of Ontario will back up Mr. Mowat's Government so far as it can successfully carry out the ideas put forward by The Toronto World, which so well accord with ours.

The Portuguese Budget.

LISBON, Jan. 16.—In the Cortes to-day Senor Cyrillo De Carvalho, the Minister of Finance, presented the Budget. The report reduces the estimated deficit 1631 contos of reis. The Minister anticipated a surplus of 1285 contos, and believes that no foreign loan or increase of taxation will be necessary. He made the usual minor proposals, including the establishment of a tobacco regie. He recommends the adoption of an extraordinary budget for 1888-89 to include 1160 contos for the colonies. He announced coming bills for the regulation of the sale of alcoholic liquors and the reorganization of the finances of the Lisbon municipal body.

Spain's Floating Debt.

MADRID, Jan. 16.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day Senor Puigcerver, Minister of Finance, announced that he had arranged with the Bank of Spain to change the floating debt into a loan of $33,000,000 bearing a maximum rate of interest of 3 per cent. during five years.

THE MOVEMENT OF TROOPS

COUNT KALNOKY HAD TAKEN NOTE OF RUSSIA'S ACTIVITY.

Austria Cherishes Peaceful Intentions—A Question for Military Councils to Decide—Reinforcements for Transylvania—France Desires an Entente.

VIENNA, Jan. 16.—Count Kalnoky, replying to Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Ambassador, who had given an explanation as to the movements of Russian troops, said that he had taken note thereof. Austria cherished equally peaceful intentions, but it would be for military councils to judge the situation created by the advance of the troops. A report is current that the second Caucasian army corps has been ordered to proceed to the Austro-Roumanian frontier. It is stated that the Government will send large reinforcements of Hungarian troops to Transylvania. The Warsaw Journal (semi-official) announces that eighty barracks will be constructed at Suvalki, Kalvaria and Maryampo on the Russian frontier.

Russia Will Not Disarm.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 16.—The Porte has advices from St. Petersburg denying the rumors of an actual or intended Russian disarmament in connection with the Bulgarian question. Russia will not subordinate her military arrangements to those of any other nation.

Italy's Undertaking.

BERLIN, Jan. 16.—Several Italian staff officers are here, consulting with the German military authorities. It is reported that their mission is in connection with Italy's undertaking to send 150,000 troops to Galicia in the event of war.

Peaceful Aspirations.

BERLIN, Jan. 16.—According to mail advices from Warsaw, Governor-General Gourko, at a reception given last night to civil and military officials, said: "I trust the year may see us, as in previous years, advancing with the work of perfecting our armaments in order to bring happiness to the Emperor and increased glory to the fatherland." The General's language is variously interpreted, but by most critics a pacific import is attached to it. The Czar's rescript to Prince Dolgorukoff, Governor of Moscow, in response to the New Year congratulations of the City of Moscow, expresses firm hope that the year will be attended with peace and prosperity.

Endeavoring to Establish an Entente.

PARIS, Jan. 16.—It is reported that M. Flourens, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is endeavoring to establish an entente between France, Russia and England.

An Interview With Mr. Parnell.

DUBLIN, Jan. 16.—A reporter of The Freeman's Journal has had an interview with Mr. Parnell. Mr. Parnell believes there is no doubt that grave dissension exists among members of the Cabinet, and that a Government crisis may occur at any time next session over some English question. He urges the Parnellites and Radicals to facilitate Government business and thus avoid the charge of obstruction. He says the Liberal-Unionists are certain to separate on English matters. Mr. Parnell says the recent reductions of rent by the Land Commission are not half what the tenants of Ireland are entitled to, and urges the party to take such steps as will oblige the sub-commissioners to re-examine the whole question. He expresses the belief that the Nationalists will gain three members in Ulster at the next parliamentary election. The followers of Parnell in Parliament are greatly dissatisfied with the advice given to abandon obstruction methods in the House of Commons.

The Church and the National League.

DUBLIN, Jan. 16.—Archbishop Knox has written to Professor Galbraith stating that his membership of the Finance Committee of the Church is not compatible with his membership of the National League. Professor Galbraith, replying, says he joined the league for conscience' sake to protest against the action of the Government in Ireland. He is ready to resign his connection with the league should unfit him for office on the Finance Committee of the Church. He will retire if his resignation is publicly requested but will do so with sorrow and regret.

Charges Refuted.

PARIS, Jan. 16.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day M. Sarrien, Minister of the Interior, retuted the charges that the Paris municipal authorities had been found guilty of organizing a revolt during the recent presidential crisis. M. Sarrier concluded by intimating that he would promote a special bill installing the Prefect of the Seine in the Hotel de Ville and that he would ask urgency for the same. An order of the day implying confidence in the Government was carried, 265 to 178.

M. Tirard's Scheme Rejected.

PARIS, Jan. 16.—The Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies has virtually rejected the financial scheme of M. Tirard, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and has refused to agree to an immediate surtax on sugar, which would be applicable to the stocks now in the refiners' hands. The committee insists that the tax should commence in September next, the best season. M. Tirard vainly endeavors to impress upon the committee that the fact that refiners were allowed to pocket 75,000,000 francs yearly was the sole cause of the deficit in the budget.

Another Anti-Socialist Bill.

BERLIN, Jan. 16.—Another Anti-Socialist Bill will be submitted to the Reichstag, which calls for more stringent measures in dealing with Socialists than those heretofore offered. It provides in certain cases for expatriation or total loss of citizenship. The reason given for this clause is that it has been the custom among those expelled to resume their agitation in new places of abode and in districts which previously had not been affected by Socialist propaganda.

An Actor Victimized.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—Wilson Barrett has been victimized by a swindler. While moving from his residence in Regent's Park a man with a furniture van called at the house and stated that he had been directed to remove the contents of the drawingroom. The servants assisted him to load the van with pictures and the valuable furniture of the room. The sharper then drove away and the police have been unable to discover any trace of him.

O'Brien Needs Rest in a Warm Clime.

DUBLIN, Jan. 16.—The Dublin corporation has conferred the freedom of the city upon Lord Ripon and Mr. John Morley. The demonstration which it is proposed to hold in London in honor of Messrs. O'Brien and Sullivan will be limited to a banquet. Mr. O'Brien's health forbids his attending open air receptions. His doctors advise repose in a warm climate.

A Bark in Distress.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The steamer Mula at Tarragona reports that on Jan. 3 in lat. 44° north, long. 9° 45 minutes west, an American-built bark, painted brown, signalled that she was leaking and asked assistance, which the Mula was unable to render owing to the state of the weather.

Advice From The Pope.

ROME, Jan. 16.—The Pope in an interview lately exhorted several Irish bishops and priests to use their influence to restore quietness and respect for the law in Ireland, and told them that the Irish people could not obtain what they asked by violence.

King John Calls a Council.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The King of Abyssinia has summoned Ras Aloula and other chiefs to a council at Adowah, to arrange for a forward movement when the main body joins Ras Aloula's forces at Asmara.

THE BLIZZARD.

Counting the Victims of its Fury—Appalling Reports From Kansas.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 16.—The terrible storm which has swept over the Northwest, blockading railroads in five states, is now over, and the victims of its fury are being counted. The list is growing almost every hour. It is not improbable when the record is complete that it will show a hundred lives have been sacrificed to the fury of the blizzard. Next to this the worst blizzard that the Northwest ever experienced occurred Jan. 7, 8 and 9, 1873. In that storm seventy people were frozen to death, and thousands of dollars' worth of property was destroyed. The present storm promises to be even more terrible in its results. It came without warning.

Thousands Destitute in Kansas.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 16.—Saturday and Sunday nights were the coldest ever experienced in this section. The reports that come from Western Kansas are appalling. The blizzards that raged through that section a few days ago left the people in such a bad condition that they were unable to stand the severe weather of the past six hours, and a large number of deaths from cold and starvation occurred. A carload of provisions was started yesterday from Wichita to Ashland, but the storm stopped the train. It is estimated that 3000 people in Clark County are in a destitute condition, and unless immediate relief is afforded the number of deaths will be fearful.

The Fatalities.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan 16.—The Journal's revised list of blizzard fatalities shows 97 dead in Dakota, 12 in Minnesota, 6 in Iowa, 17 in Nebraska and 2 in Montana; total 135, besides 55 reported missing.

LOSSES BY FIRE.

A Listowel Residence Destroyed—Burning of a Forest Livery Stable.

LISTOWEL, Jan. 16.—At 7.30 last night fire destroyed the residence of Thomas E. Hay while the family were at church. Insured in the British America $1400, Mercantile $1500, Waterloo Mutual $1000.

Burning of a Livery Stable.

FOREST, Jan. 16.—A fire broke out in D. McDougall's livery stable last evening. They got the horses and rigs out. The loss on the contents is about $100, insured in the Huron and Middlesex. The building is a total loss, insured in the Gore District for $400; total loss $1200.

A Small Blaze at Hamilton.

HAMILTON, Jan. 16.—At 11.10 last night the office of the Hamilton and Dundas Street Railway was discovered to be on fire. The firemen were soon on hand and succeeded in confining the fire to the little office in front, the ceilings and partitions of which were pretty badly charred. Everything in the office was destroyed, except the company's books. Mr. Weatherston estimates his loss at about $100. Another $100 ought to repair the building.

The Dingley Resolution Adopted.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—In the House today Mr. McMillen (Minn.), from the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, reported the Dingley resolution calling for information relative to discrimination in tolls against American vessels passing through the Welland Canal. Mr. Dingley (Me.) said the offering of the resolution had excited some comment. In a Canadian despatch to a Boston paper a semi-official denial is given that any discrimination against American vessels was practised. In this denial it was admitted that vessels passing through the Welland Canal bound for Montreal for foreign ports were permitted to pass on a toll of two cents, while vessels bound for the lake ports were charged a toll of twenty cents a ton. It was admitted also that this discrimination was made for the purpose of encouraging the exportation of grain by way of Montreal, but Canadian officials claimed that such a discrimination was not in violation of treaty rights. It was asserted that as long as the Canadian Government did not discriminate against American vessels as such, but only against American ports, there was no such violation. This ground, Mr. Dingley contended, was untenable, and he denied that there was a court of justice in the country which would not arrive at the conclusion that a discrimination against the object for which a way was to be used was a discrimination against the use of the way. He had offered the resolution in the House that at an early day the President would call the attention of the British authorities to this discrimination in violation of treaty and in order that Congress might be informed of the facts and take such action as it might consider advisable. The resolution was adopted.

The German Budget.

BERLIN, Jan. 16.—The Minister of Finance submitted his estimates to-day for the year 1888-89. The receipts and expenditures, which balance, are placed at 1,410,728,921 marks. The revenue is increased 121,693,708 marks against an increase in expenditure of 81,235,952 marks. The estimates of railway receipts show an improvement of 2,225,000 marks, and the taxes on brandy and sugar are expected to yield M. 71,000,000 marks. A new item of 20,000,000 marks is inserted in the estimates as a contribution to the requirements of communal schools. The Budget for 1886-87 showed a surplus of 16,000,000 marks, while the Budget for 1887-88 left an available surplus of 28,000,000 marks.

A Train Despatcher's Error.

OTTUMWA, Ia., Jan. 16.—A Wabash passenger train from Des Moines and a water train of the Ottumwa and Kirkville road, collided four miles west of here last night. The engines were completely demolished. The Wabash baggage car was derailed, also four of the Ottumwa and Kirkville cars. H. E. Peck, the Wabash engineer, jumped and escaped with a slight sprain. His fireman was scalded to death. George Miller and Isaac Budenstein, the engineer and fireman of the other train, were killed and buried under the wreck. The collision was caused by a mistake of the Rock Island train despatcher.

—Don't fail to visit the curtain-rooms at W. A. Murray & Co.'s. If you want any curtains you can buy from them at very low prices, they are stock taking. 224

Without a Strike.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 16.—The difficulties between the Pennsylvania Company and its employes will undoubtedly be adjusted without a strike. The officials of the company have given the Grievance Committee to understand that certain concessions will be made within the next few days.

The Dangerous Double-Ripper.

HAVERHILL, Mass., Jan. 16.—An accident happened this evening to a party of boys who were coasting on Peeker's Hill on a double-ripper. The sled ran into William Meserve's coal team and thirteen boys were thrown off, seven of whom were severely injured.

Big Breach of Promise Judgment.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—Judgment against Charles Arbuckle, the coffee merchant, against whom was decided the suit for breach of promise brought by Miss Clara Campbell, was entered in the County Clerk's office to-day for $46,182.

Still in His Castle.

DUBLIN, Jan. 16.—The report that Mr. Pyne, M.P., has escaped from Lisfinny Castle, where for some time past he has defied the authorities, is said by the police to be untrue.

A Rejected Lover's Crime.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Jan. 16.—Sherman Lynn, who had been paying attention to Lizzie Berg, shot and fatally wounded her sister Carrie on Saturday night, mistaking her for Lizzie, who had refused him.

Fire at Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 16.—The building occupied by The Evening Star was burned to-day; loss $50,000.

MEREDITH V. TAYLOR.

Justice Galt Gives a Heavy Judgment Against the London Financier.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—At the Assizes to-day Chief Justice Galt (without a jury) heard the civil case of R. M. Meredith v. Henry Taylor, to recover $15,337 which plaintiff claims Taylor agreed to pay him for 315 shares of Ontario Investment stock. It was on the capias in this action that Taylor was incarcerated on Sep. 2. Plaintiff produced the agreement in the case, which bore the signature of Taylor and himself. Plaintiff had purchased the stock in Toronto in 1882, on the representation of Taylor that the Ontario Investment Association was a sound concern. Plaintiff supposed that the shares were owned by Toronto parties but found out they had in reality been "palmed off" on him by Taylor. The first agreement set out the actual consideration of the sale, but Taylor had objected to this for fear it might give others a clue and involve more claims, so it was changed to read that Taylor agreed to buy this stock back "for $1 and divers other considerations." Plaintiff stated that he only sued for the par value of the stock, though he paid 133 for it. Henry Taylor was called in defence, and denied having anything to do with the transfer of the stock to plaintiff, that Meredith had called on him several times in regard to rumors about members of the board and wanted to see the association's books, which he (Taylor) refused to show. Subsequently he got a letter from plaintiff which he considered in the nature of a threat; he (Taylor) offered to take the stock back at par, plaintiff wanted 33 premium, though the stock was then selling at 80 to 85. Meredith took till next day to consider, and then presented a memorandum to the effect that in consideration of not taking criminal proceedings against witness he (Taylor) agreed to buy the shares. Witness refused to sign this, and suggested it should read "in consideration of $1." In this form the agreement was signed. He (witness) had nothing to do with Meredith buying the stock; he only agreed to take it back on account of Meredith's threats of criminal proceedings. The books were produced which showed that the stock sold to Meredith was Taylor's and was not held in trust. To Mr. Osler Taylor denied that any reason for fearing prosecution was the injury it would do the companies with which he was connected.

Justice Galt gave judgment in favor of plaintiff, with costs, saying: "I find the defendant himself proposed to the plaintiff to give him the bond, and that if he was apprehensive of personal criminal proceedings it was not through plaintiff's threats."

Case Under the Liquor License Law.

HAMILTON, Jan. 16.—The first case taken up at the Assizes this morning was that of Trice v. Robinson. It was an action brought by Mrs. Alice Trice against Robert Robinson, keeper of an hotel in Orkney, under section 88 of the liquor license law, to recover damages for the death of her husband, Henry Trice. The plaintiff claims that Robinson supplied her husband with liquor in excess on June 1 last at his hotel in Orkney, and that his death on the Grand Trunk Railway, about a mile from Copetown, on the same day was the result of drinking to excess. The plaintiff claims $1000 damages, the full amount allowed under the liquor license law. The case was not concluded to-day.

Not in the Milk Business.

PETERBORO, Jan. 16.—An odd occurrence took place here a few days ago. Mr. John J. Hall, Inland Revenue Inspector, received instructions to get several specimens of milk for testing for use in a Government report. In order to get a full complement of specimens he dropped into Councillor Yelland's residence, a few doors from his office, and asked for a pint of milk. Thinking that he wanted it to drink, the milk was handed to him. It was a blue skimmed milk. It now comes out in the report that Mr. Yelland sells poor milk, and orders have been issued that he shall be prosecuted. Councillor Yelland is highly indignant that he should be charged with having sold milk, far less skimmed milk.

Roman Catholics in Quebec.

QUEBEC, Jan. 16.—Le Courrier du Canada gives the following statistics with regard to the Roman Catholic Church in this province. There are 1,485,000 Roman Catholics, directed by 1 cardinal, 2 archbishops, 1 apostolic prefect and 1546 priests and religious. They have 957 churches, 28 seminaries and colleges, 232 convents and 69 hospitals. The different ecclesiastical provinces into which the province is divided are peopled as follows by Catholics: Quebec, 729,000; Montreal, 610,000; Ottawa, 137,000. In the Diocese of Quebec there are 666 priests, 411 churches and 108 convents, 10 seminaries and colleges, 25 hospitals and 1227 schools.

Coasting Accidents at Hamilton.

HAMILTON, Jan. 16.—There were a number of coasting accidents here last week. Miss McLeod of Duke-street had her collar bone broken at one of the toboggan slides on Friday evening. Maggie Semmens, daughter of Thomas Semmens, had her right leg broken while coasting. Nelson Gain, the 6-year-old son of Thomas Gain, had his thigh broken while coasting on Saturday. The 13-year-old son of James McCleary, freight agent of the Grand Trunk Railway, had his leg very badly fractured while coasting on Saturday afternoon. John Gleason fractured his hand while coasting on Saturday.

Raid on an Illicit Distillery.

OWEN SOUND, Jan. 16.—On Saturday afternoon W. J. Graham, Collector of Inland Revenue at this port, made a raid on an illicit distillery in the Township of Amabel, run by one Thomas Martin. He arrested Martin and seized his still, two fermenting rums and a quantity of molasses. Martin was tried at Allenford to-day and fined $100 and one month in Walkerton jail.

Oshawa Council Inaugural.

OSHAWA, Jan. 16.—The inaugural meeting of the new Council took place to-day. Although there were rumors current on the streets during the past week that three members-elect could not qualify, there was no protest entered.

A Cold Death.

GLENMORRIS, Jan. 16.—A man named Charles O'Neil was found dead on the ice under the Glenmorris bridge by some school boys between 12 and 1 o'clock to-day.

Died From Want.

MONTREAL, Jan. 16.—An old man named Paul Menard, aged 77 years, has died here through want.

Toronto Vocal Society's Concert to-night. Concerted pieces: Glees and choruses; 100 voices.

Sir John and Hon. Thomas White in Town.

Sir John Macdonald and Hon. Thomas White arrived in the city yesterday morning and are quartered at the Queen's. The Premier's movements during the day are referred to elsewhere. Sir John will preside at the meeting of the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company at the Board of Trade rooms this morning at 11. He will probably return to Ottawa this evening.

The Sons of England Benevolent Society.

St. George's Lodge No. 27, Sons of England, held their regular meeting in their rooms at Queen and Berkeley-streets, last night. It greatly pleased President Bro. Smallpiece to see the members turn out in such force. Three new members were initiated and two were proposed for membership at their next meeting.

A Smoking Party at the Reform Club.

Lieut.-Col. Allan, Q.O.R., gave a smoking party at the Reform Club last night to the officers of the Toronto Garrison and New Fort. Every corps was well represented, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

Crowds Are Rushing Yet.

The excitement never seems to die out, crowds are all the time rushing to 179 Yonge-st. They seem never to get satisfied. No sooner they get a big bargain than they come back for another. The big discount sale is still in progress at the big housefurnishing game and toy emporium. Mr. Strathern is giving such bargains in every line of housefurnishing goods as never before was known in the city. This "snap" won't be kept up much longer, so make of your chance quick at the noted house, 179 Yonge. 2

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BROKER E. S. COX OBJECTS TO AN OPEN EXAMINATION.

The Disappointed Throng That Filed out of the Master-in-Ordinary's Court Room—The Hearing Sent to a Special Examiner—An Interesting Argument.

A large and disappointed throng of spectators and reporters slowly filed out of the Master-in-Ordinary's court room in Osgoode Hall at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Why were they disappointed?

Because Broker E. S. Cox's examination in re Central Bank affairs did not take place.

Something startling was expected as the result of Mr. Cox being put through the examination process by Mr. W. A. Foster.

Consequently the little room, with its half-dozen rows of semi-circled seats, whose upholstering would be none the worse for several stitches and a little more stuffing here and there, was crowded.

The World looked around and saw in the audience ex-Mayor Howland and Wm. Gooderham, two of the liquidators; Henry Gooderham, Alfred Gooderham, Wm. Thomson, W. B. Hamilton and others. There was a painful absence of the bank's directors or any of its ante-mortem officers.

A $60,000 depositor was pointed out to The World. He sat in a back seat, and his face wore an axious look.

Mr. Cox entered the room at 2.20. He surveyed the audience and the audience surveyed him. The broker said in his glance: "I will fool you all this time."

Mr. Foster and Accountant Lye sat at a table loaded up with big bank ledgers, papers, and legal-looking documents. At the other table Mr. John Bain, Q.C., and his partner, Mr. Kappele, were busily engaged "consulting the authorities" preparatory to springing a new point.

The Master took his seat at 2.30 and he looked at Mr. Foster and then towards Mr. Bain. Mr. Foster said he was ready to proceed with the examination of Mr. Cox.

This brought Mr. Bain to his feet at once. He said: "I must ask that the public be excluded from the courtroom while this examination is in progress. It is merely an examination to secure information, and not a trial. An examination before the Master has been held to be of a private nature in England. The same ruling holds good in this case. The proposed examination was for the purpose of discovering something relating to the affairs of the bank. It was not a suit to which Mr. Cox was a party, but simply an examination which Mr. Cox had a right to ask through counsel should be private. Otherwise it might act injuriously to the interests of Mr. Cox's business. He had this right according to the statute."

Mr. Bain read the statute and continued: "At a private examination all the facts could be elicited, but the public would not be present. Nothing was to be gained by a public examination, but indirectly injustice might be done to Mr. Cox. Their only object was to give information, and this might be done equally satisfactorily and in the interests of all concerned by a private examination."

Mr. Foster, counsel for the liquidators, said it was immaterial to him whether the examinations were public or private. It was a matter for the courts to decide. The witness had been summoned before a public court, and he saw no reason why the examination should be private. The court should not decide this without some evidence that it would be injurious to Mr. Cox's interest to be publicly examined.

Mr. Bain said it was not usual to have affidavits in such a case, but to accept statements of counsel as to matters of fact. At the same time he was prepared to put in an affidavit by Mr. Cox in support of the contention that the examination should be private on the ground that it might injure his private business. He was willing to give full and free information.

Mr. Foster wished to know how Mr. Cox's business was to be in any way injured through these proceedings being public. A mere statement of the fact was manifestly insufficient.

Mr. Bain said an affidavit would be sufficient. What motive was there for the public being present?

The Master: "I have no right, without some good grounds, to exclude the public from this examination. This is my opinion, but I will adjourn the court for a short time to confer with one of the learned judges before giving a definitive decision. If I think it right to exclude the public or otherwise, there would be the right of appeal."

The Master then left the court for conference, and on his return said that his opinion was that this was a public court, and he had no authority, except in certain cases, to exclude the public. Both of the judges with whom he had conferred had had considerable experience in such cases, and they agreed that there was no precedent for excluding the public from court rooms were: 1. Where the parties in attendance were unruly or verged on contempt of court; 2. Where it was in the interests of the public morality that the evidence should not be disclosed. Neither of these objections was advanced in the present case.

Mr. Bain said he considered the order made exceedingly vexatious to his client, and he consequently would put in his affidavits to that effect.

Mr. Foster: "I call for the examination of Mr. Cox."

Mr. Bain: "I have the right to appeal. To proceed with the examination now would simply be to deprive me of my right of appeal."

Mr. Foster: "I would rather have the examination go on in private than defer the examination."

The Master said that the only way the examination could be privately conducted was by a reference to one of the special examiners. In that case none of the rules of his court would apply to the examination. He was sitting there as a presiding officer of a public court and in a public court room, and he knew of no authority that he possessed to exclude the public other than the grounds he had named.

Mr. Foster then suggested that they go to the Master's private office or to the Central Bank building. In the latter case he would guarantee that the public would be excluded. He was decidedly opposed to any delay; so was the liquidators.

The Master said he was in favor of expediting the matter. Sometimes slow justice was injustice. He suggested Tuesday next for the examination, which would give Mr. Bain an opportunity of appealing against his (the Master's) decision that the examination should be public.

Mr. Foster thought this adjournment an unusually large one.

Mr. Bain said he could not possibly go on with his appeal before the regular day, which would be next Monday.

The Master: "I am desirous to accord a full measure of fairness to both sides. I will enlarge the hearing until Jan. 24 at 2 p.m."

Mr. Foster said: "I cannot acquiesce in this decision, and sooner than delay Mr. Cox's examination for a week I will consent to a special examiner hearing the case. This I very much regret, as you, sir, have heard all the proceedings so far, and are quite familiar with the case. We will accept the reference in preference to delay."

The Master: "Very well."

The counsel in the case and the liquidators then adjourned to the Master's private office, and after talking over the matter the name of Mr. George M. Evans was decided upon as the examiner.

Mr. Evans will be asked to appoint an hour for the hearing this afternoon.

This is evidently a exemplification of Bill Vanderbilt's answer to the New York reporter: "The public be damned."

Other Central Bank Matters.

Before Vice-Chancellor Proudfoot, in Chambers, at Osgoode Hall yesterday, another phase of the Central Bank matter came up. It is an action brought by S. H. Janes, the real estate man, against J. K. Kerr, Q.C., to compel him to accept $6500 worth of Central Bank stock which it is alleged the defendant agreed to accept on a $40,000 land transaction. The motion asked for a mandatory injunction to compel him to accept the stock or for a speedy trial of the action. The trial was fixed for Jan. 28.

A CHAT WITH THE OLD MAN.

The Premier Looks Well, Feels Well and Talks Freely.

The World had a chat with Sir John last night in the Red Parlor at the Queen's. The Old Man had just come in from a cruise about town. He flung off his great coat, said he was delighted to see The World, and then made