

ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Few places attract as large crowds of young people during the winter season as open air skating rinks. This shows a throng at Moss Park, Toronto.

### Is Figure-Skating a Lost Art?

By George A. Meagher.

'In figure skating, Canada, with such men as Robinson, Rubenstein, Pereira, Barnston, Geddes, and many others, some few years ago, led the world, but to-day, little or no interest is shown by the rising generation, in this, our noble and once national winter pastime. Ottawa, which is the home of the Minto Skating Club, perhaps is doing more to revive the "poetry of motion" than any other city in the Dominion. Annual contests are held and valuable trophies awarded to the lucky lady Toronto and Kingston skaters seem content merely to skirt the rink and rarely ever attempt artistic figures, barring an odd "rocker" or so seen at their clubs. Montreal enthusiasts are wrapped up wholly in the old-time valse, and it is not to be regretted that Canadians generally show such lack of interest in this graceful sport? There is the most ideal skating ground in the world. Should this gloriously fascinating art become a lost one? To revive it would be a simple matter, were the various skating rink directors to offer gold medals to be competed for by both children and adults. Many of the old-timers would willingly, in the name of this grand old science and sport (which Canadians have apparently let slide), participate as judges and assist our boys and girls in not being outdone by others over the line, or even across the big pond.

"I slip, I slide, I glance, I glide,  
On the outside edge I do;  
I rush on with a merry shout,  
Then like the swallow float."

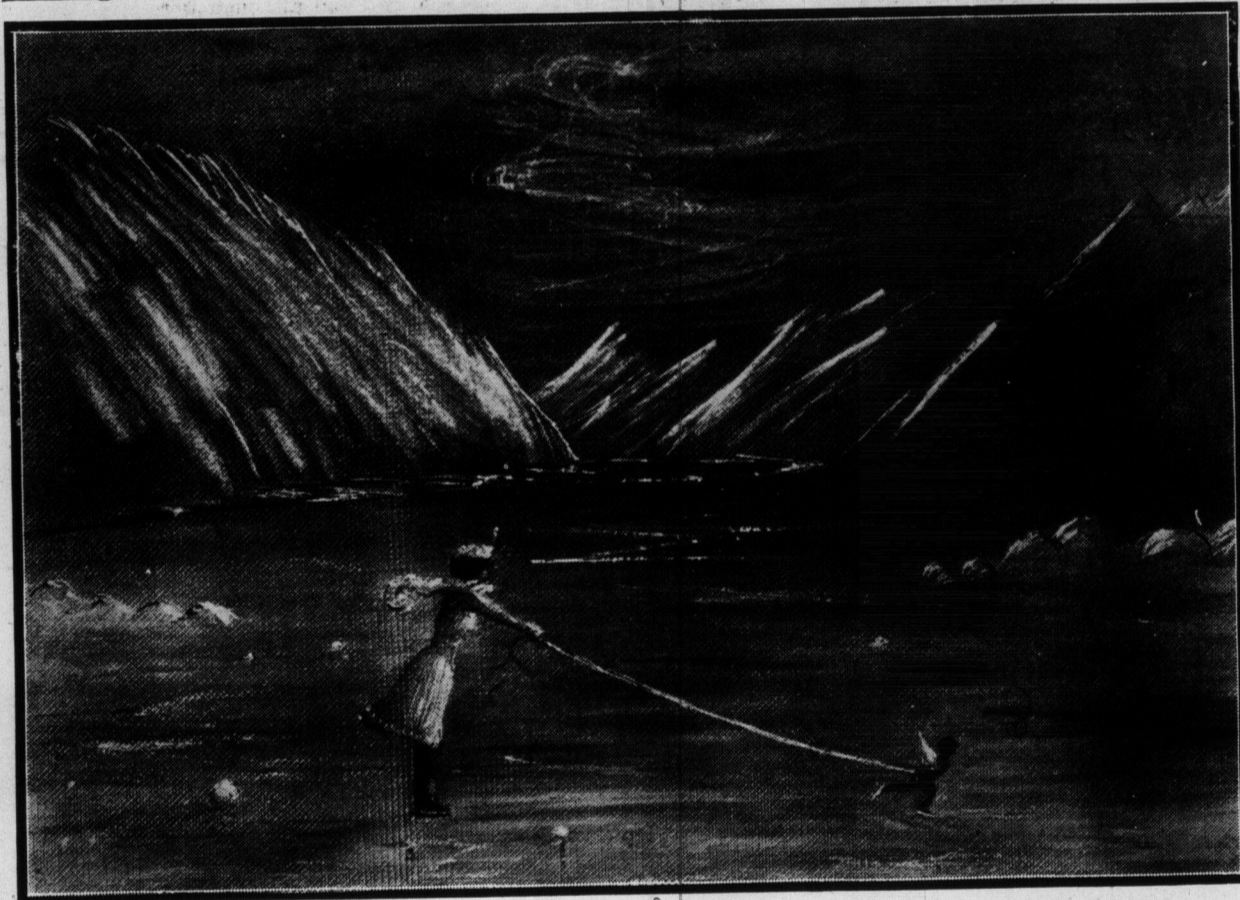
#### NEW MACMILLAN FICTION.

A list of fiction to be published by the Macmillan Company in the course of the spring season, proves that this will be in many respects a notable year for novel readers. When the announcements of a single firm contain the names of Gertrude Atherton, "Barbara," Bjornson, the Castles, Winston Churchill, Marion Crawford, Frank Danby, Robert Herrick, Albert Kinross, Jack London, and John Luther

Long, it is evident that the year's publications in this field will have plenty of variety and interest. Of prime importance is the statement that Mr. Churchill will have a novel ready for publication before summer. Ever since the appearance of "Coniston," nearly two years ago, Mr.

Mr. Crawford's offer for 1908 is the long-awaited "Prima Donna," a sequel to "Fair Margaret." Everyone who read the earlier book has confidently expected that the sequel would be forthcoming, and Mr. Crawford's delay in supplying it seems only to have whetted the appetites of his readers.

book, "Together," is said to signify that it is the story of a married couple. It may be assumed that this, like Mr. Herrick's earlier books, is a study of American character and manners. In "The Gulf," John Luther Long has turned from Japan to America, and from the tragedy of "The Way of the



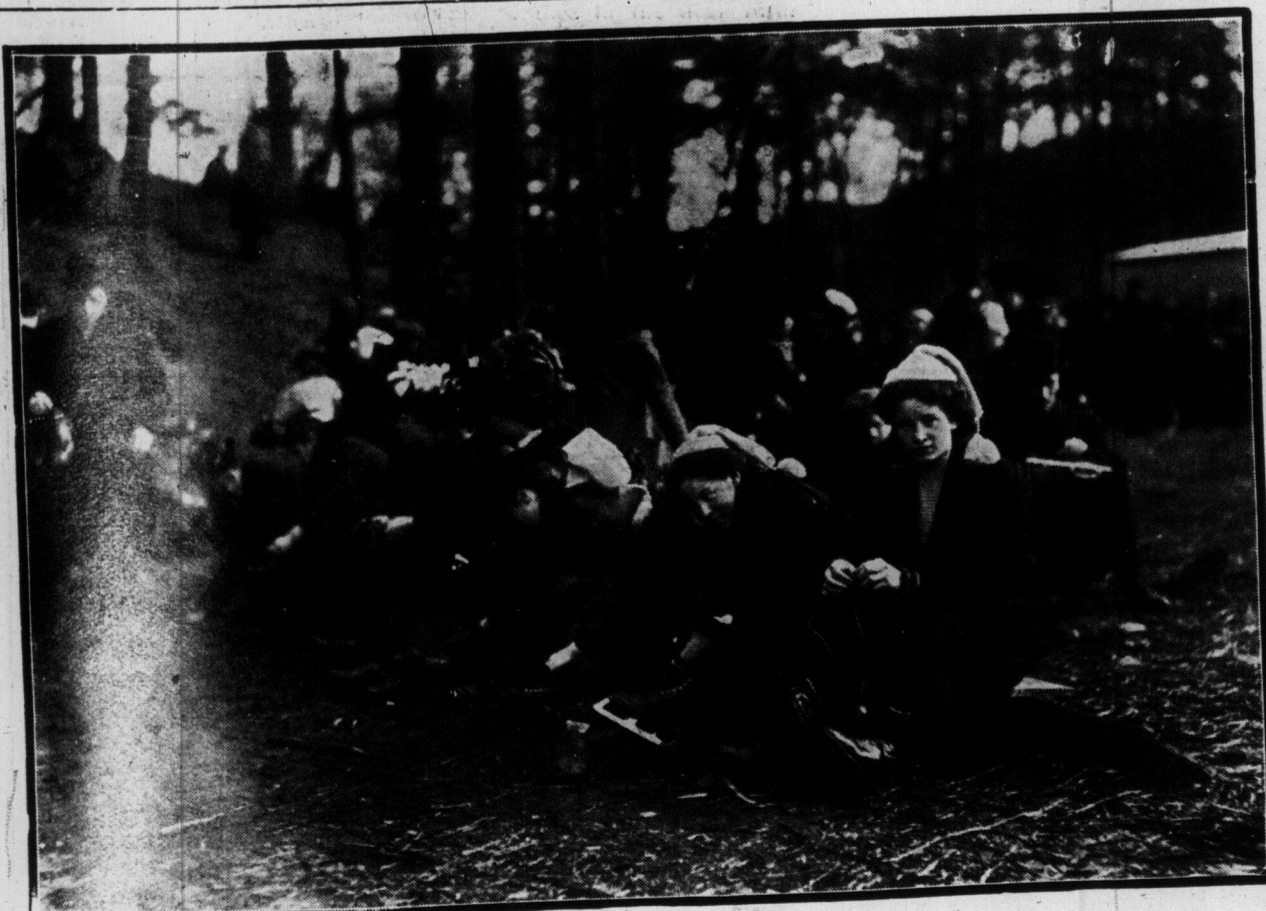
CUPID ON THE ICE.

From the original painting by George A. Meagher, now in the possession of the Infanta Eulalia of Spain.

Churchill has been busy with this new book. He has permitted no announcement to be made, however, until he had brought it so near completion that its appearance in the near future is assured.

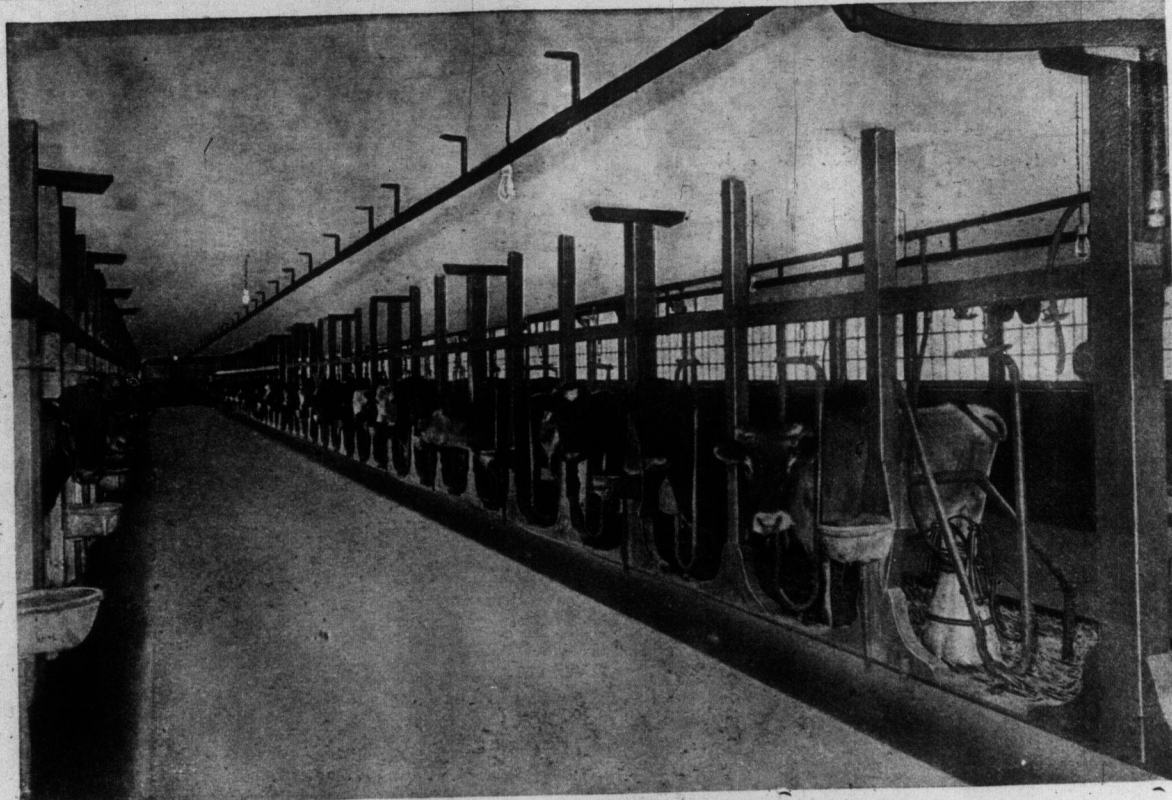
Jack London's "The Iron Heel," which is to appear in February, is a story of the social revolution, and may be expected to embody some of the social theories for which London is well-known. The title of Robert Herrick's

Gods" to comedy. "Tales of the Months," by the author of "The Garden of a Communist's Wife," is a condensed series of thirteen short stories, the number corresponding with the thirteen months of the Indian calendar. Frank Danby, whose "Figs in Clover" was much talked of a few years ago, is said to have turned to a somewhat less depressing subject



PUTTING ON SKATES.

So keen is the sport of gliding over the ice that a scramble is always made amongst skaters to get onto the ice first. Young ladies are as enthusiastic contestants as the young men, as will be seen in this photograph.



### THE HOME OF CERTIFIED MILK

The splendid sanitary stable at Price's dairy farm where special milk is produced for infants and invalids.

for her new book, "The Heart of a Child," "Joan of Garloch" is the title of the new novel by Albert Kinross, who will be remembered as the author of one of the clever novels of last year, "Davenport." Agnes and Egerton Castle are represented in this list by a new novel in their well-known style, and Mrs. Atherton by new editions of "Patience Sparhawk," "The Californians," and "The Splendid Idle Forties." Two new works, "In God's Way," and "The Heritage of the Kuris," are to be added to the Macmillan edition of the novels and tales of the Norwegian author, Bjornson.

"A PRESENTIMENT OF DEATH."  
In "The Curse of the Romanovs," which was recently published by the

elves upon him, while one of them, removing his scarf, tied it tightly around the victim's throat and twisted it till he had breathed his last.

Real Sport.  
"What will you have sir?" asked the waiter in the ultra-fashionable restaurant.  
"I think I'll take some ale," drawled Uncle Deberry, as he gazed in awe at the electric cigar lighter.  
"We have some very fine old musty ales, sir?"  
"Musty?" Gosh all hemlock! Give me the freshest you have, young man. I reckon I can afford to pay for good stuff when I get it."

Do not underrate another man's ability, nor overrate your own.



### We Have No Sympathy

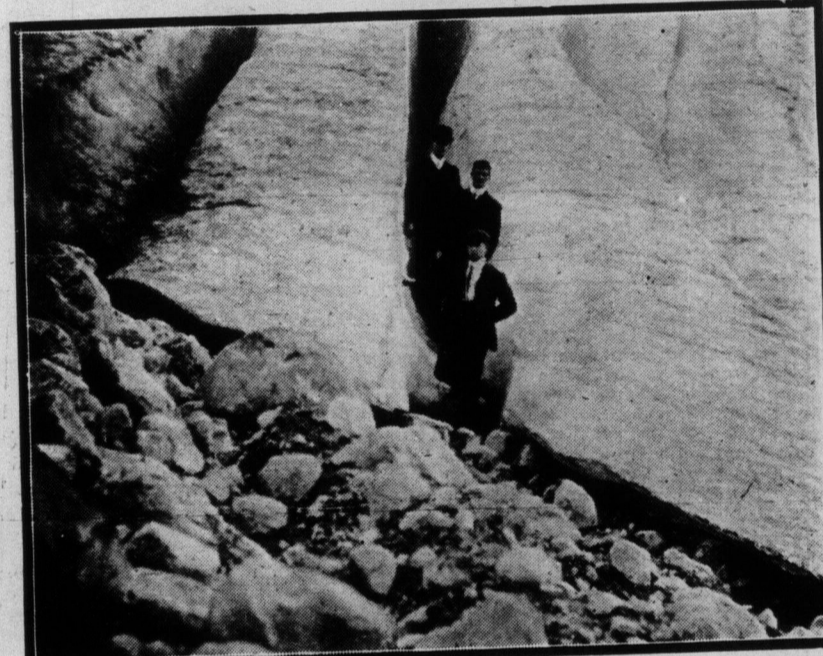
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### WHERE ICE IS MONARCH.

Glimpse of three men standing in a crevice of glacier in British Columbia. The ice is stated to have receded only 40 feet in 30 years.—Photo by W. G. Pearce, Toronto.

McClure Company, Dr. Pappaport tells a gruesome story of two strange presentiments which Cesar Paul I. had not only of his approaching assassination, but of the manner in which it would be performed. He was riding in one of the alleys of his new palace five days before his death when he suddenly stopped his horse, and, turning to his companion, exclaimed in great alarm: "I feel quite suffocated! I feel as if I were going to die! Will they strangle me?" On the night of his assassination the emperor was in unusually high spirits, joking pleasantly with his guests, but after dinner he caught sight of himself in a looking glass which had a flaw and exclaimed: "What a strange mirror! My neck looks as if it were twisted." When the end approached at last and the conspirators were entering his bedroom, spirators were over come with fear, hid in the chimney and had to be dragged down by the leg. "What have I done?" he exclaimed, trembling, and falling on his knees, he begged and prayed for mercy. His protestations were unheeded; several officers threw them-

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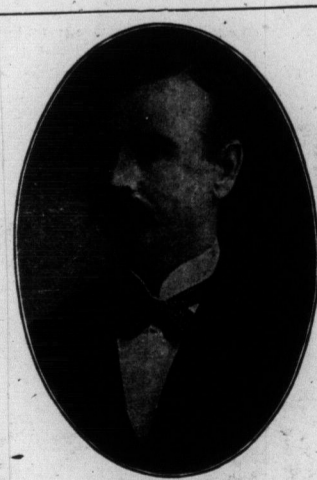
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SKATING IN HOLLAND.

From a painting showing the sport as it is followed in Rotterdam.

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