

THE LATE JUDGE HOLT.

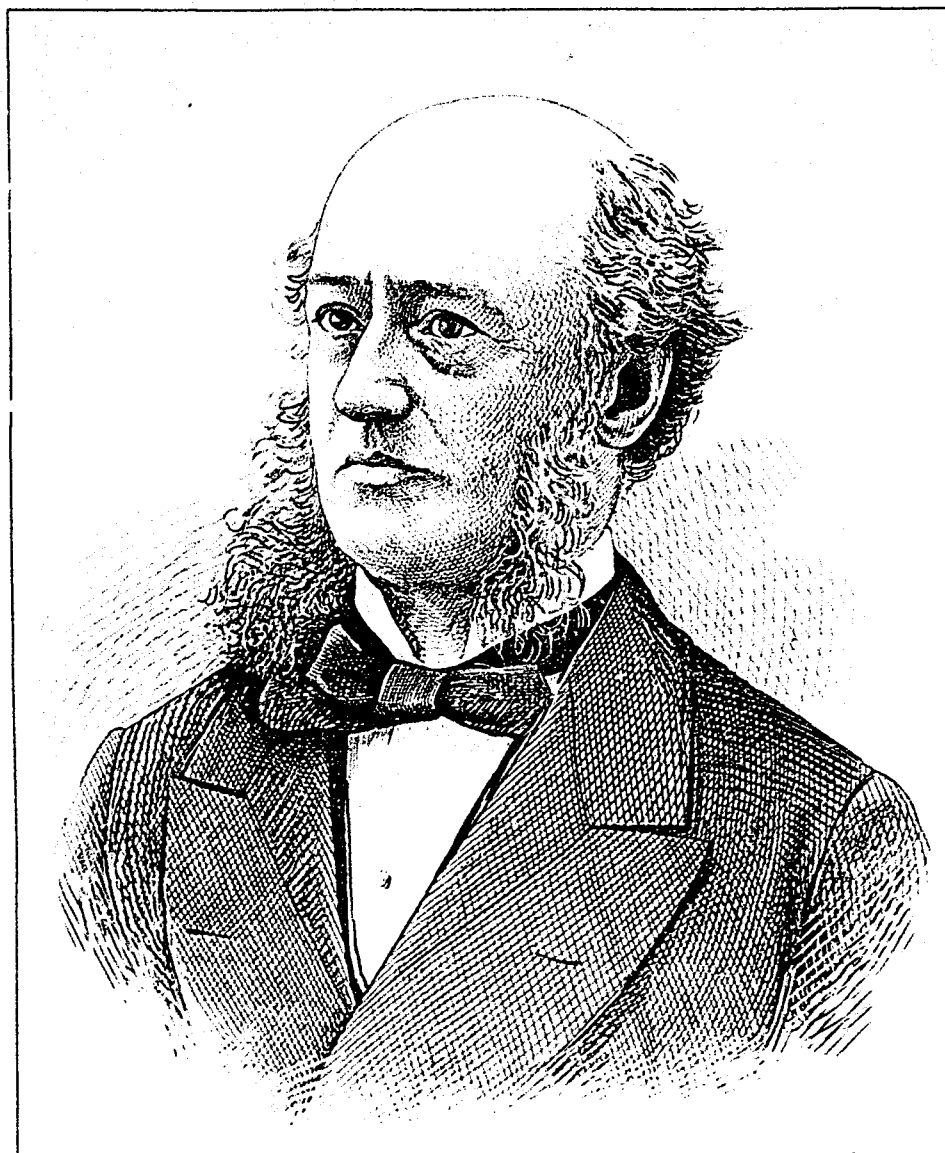
The late Judge Holt was born in Quebec, the eldest son of the late C. A. Holt, Esq., a merchant there. He was descended from a family which had been settled in America for over two hundred years, but which came to Canada after the close of the American war. The deceased was called to the Bar in 1844 and was made a Q.C. in 1863, and soon achieved a name for himself as a sound and brilliant lawyer, but it was perhaps in winning verdicts in commercial cases that he was most successful as an advocate. His pleasing appearance, imperturbable good-humour and uniform courtesy, joined to his ability and eloquence, usually proved quite irresistible with the jury. Among his *confidères* at the Bar Judge Holt was extremely popular, and he always took the warmest interest in upholding the honor and dignity of the profession. By the Bench he was universally respected, for though firm in upholding the interests of his clients, he was never disrespectful or captious to the judge. He was, in fact, in every way a model lawyer.

Many were surprised at his accepting in January last so comparatively insignificant a post as that of Judge of the Sessions, but it is probable he already felt the seeds of the disease which ultimately proved fatal to him, and was glad to exchange the laborious life of the profession for the comparative ease of the Bench. Besides, in the last thirty years only one Protestant member of the Quebec Bar has been appointed to the higher courts of this province.

The extremely complimentary resolution passed by the Bar was felt in his case to be no exaggerated praise, and the immense concourse of citizens which attended his funeral proved that an honorable and blameless man, even in these days of rapid living, wins recognition from the world.

WHY AMERICANS BOLT.—It is especially remarkable that in the United States the ordinary food of the people is better in quality and more respectably cooked than among the masses in any other country, and the Americans are known to masticate their food very imperfectly, in short, to "bolt" it. This habit of bolting is probably itself due to the general excellence of the food supply, coupled with the restlessly busy temperament of the people. Now it is curious that in the United States the degeneration of the wisdom teeth has gone further than in any European country; that the jaws are almost always abnormally short; that the lower jaw is apt to be rather "underhung," and that, as Mr. Brace assured Mr. Darwin, "it is becoming quite a common practice to remove some of the molar teeth of children," as the jaw does not grow large enough to hold the proper number. To these peculiarities we must attribute in great part the commonness of the hatchet face in America.

OUR CANADIAN PORTRAIT GALLERY.

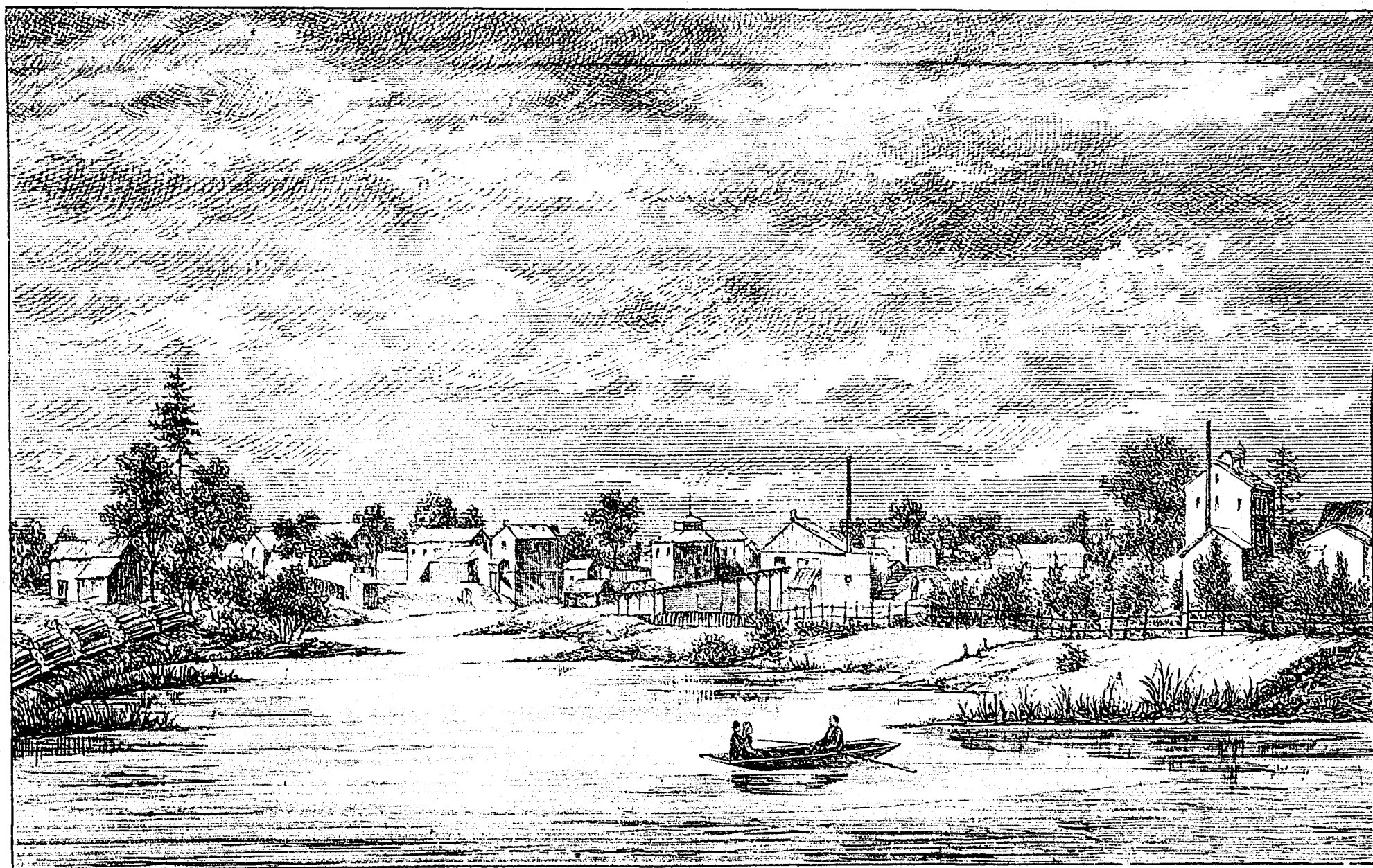


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KING THEODORE'S PROPOSAL.—It is an unlucky sign for a King of Abyssinia to write a letter to the Queen of England. It was a misadventure of that kind, written by the late King Theodore, that led to the Abyssinian war a few years ago. His African Majesty proposed to marry the Queen. His letter to that effect was, by some mischance, filed away in a pigeon-hole in one of the British circumlocution offices, and never thought of until the black king began to maltreat the English missionaries within his boundaries, by way of showing his sense of blighted affections. He kept this up until the English Government sent an army there to thrash him, which it did. But the war and its costs were heavy penalties for pigeon-holing a letter from Africa. The present letter from King John is on a less embarrassing subject, for it only complains of the Egyptians, and, as the English are doing the same thing on their own account, this letter can get a prompt response, expressing a fellow-feeling, and therefore be wondrous kind. But it will not do to file it in a pigeon-hole or a waste-paper basket.

THE COMING WINTER.—Among the triumphs of science, which research and diligent application have secured, is that system of observation and computation by which it is possible to prognosticate, with almost unswerving accuracy, the weather changes, the temperature and atmospheric conditions which will prevail for hours, weeks and even months to come. It is now confidently asserted that the coming winter is to be, in the main, not unlike last winter, as regards average temperature. There will be a cold spell through the middle of December, and a very cold snap during the latter part of January. The amount of snow which will fall will aggregate more than fell last winter, and the chances are that sleighing will prevail during nearly the entire season. This is undoubtedly welcome news to the manufacturers of sleighs and the dealers in robes, furs, etc., who, for many winters past, have been heavy losers, owing to the openness of the weather and the scarcity of snow. The temperature will probably be more even than last winter, which latter was characterized by three severe gales. The prospects for a plentiful ice crop are thus seen to be favorable—a fact of interest to all consumers of this luxury.



GRAND BEND IN RIVER AU SABLE.—FROM A SKETCH BY REV. H. CHRISTOPHERSEN.