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FIFTEENTH YEAR | TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 15 1894 | ONE CENT.

CHARGED WITH SIX MURDERS

GEORGE DECKER OF LONDON, ONT., IN A CALIFORNIA JAIL.

Said to Have Killed Wife and Babe, Poisoned His Second Wife and to Have Put Grandchildren Out of the Way—Bones of His Supposed Victims Found in a Cave After Twenty-Seven Years.

YREKA, Cal., May 14.—A shepherd tending his flocks in Kildere Hills entered a cave and, stumbling, stooped to pick up an obstruction. There were many, and a lighted match showed they were bones—human, dust-covered bones. He told of his discovery that night. The next day he brought the bones to town.

Then a fire that had been smouldering for 27 years burst forth, a fire of vengeance, and the next morning George Decker, a prosperous farmer and a leading Oddfellow, was placed under fire. This happened six days ago, and to-night the man who paces up and down between the stone walls, for he cannot sleep, is charged with six murders, and it is believed others will be laid to his door.

The grand jury of Siskyou County has been staggered by the evidence brought before it. The foreman said to-day: "What next will come to light? This body has three true bills to present to-morrow and is only waiting to learn if the evidence supporting more will come in."

Outlived Suspicion.

To be sure, rumor has in the past cast a shadow on the name of Decker, but that was years ago, when this was a lawless region, and those who were old enough to talk have since died or moved away. The man outlived suspicion. He grew to be a leader of men. He acquired wealth and influence.

He has not slept without a member of his family in his room for 20 years. This has been made known, along with the damning evidence, since the shepherd found the dust-covered bones in a cave on the Kildere hills.

Yreka was once a great town on the coast. It was a mining centre, and in the early sixties was in its glory. To-day it is as large as it was then, but hardly larger, and has grown into a prosperous farming settlement.

George Decker came to Yreka in 1865, from where no one knew. A woman with two children came a few months later. She was Mrs. Decker, and she said she came from London, Canada, where they had married. Mrs. Decker was of middle age. The eldest child, Rosie, was 7 years old, and there was a boy of 3—Benny.

Mother and Babe Disappear.

Townsfolk often said that she did not live happily with her husband. A year after Yreka was made their home another child was born, a sickly little one that kept its mother busy at home.

The few old residents now recall that about this time Decker left his household to care for itself a great deal and was frequently at the home of a wealthy widow named Goodrich. Loud cries were heard in Decker's home one day. A man ran into the house. The husband held a whip over his wife, who was cowering at a table, and she was saying: "I'll sign. I'll sign. Please don't strike," and she put her name to a paper, the contents of which she knew not.

Mother and baby disappeared two weeks later. The whole family had gone out driving and the father had returned with Benny and Eva. His wife and baby, he said, he had placed on a stage. They were going to San Francisco, thence to Canada.

He appeared in the streets in mourning clothes a month later. "The steamer carrying my wife and child was lost in a gale," he said, and much sympathy was shown.

Blood On His Hands.

Mrs. Preston told the following story. She was the child Eva: "We went for a ride that morning—papa, mamma, Benny, the baby and myself. When we reached the hills papa hitched the horses and told mamma to get out of the wagon with the baby and go with him. She cried and he dragged her along.

"They went away up in the bushes. By and by papa came back alone. His hands were bloody and he wiped them on the grass. He told Benny and I that if we ever spoke of mother he would kill us, and he meant it. Then we drove home."

Mrs. Preston is a simple minded woman, not insane, but feeble—in fact, a monomaniac on the subject of fear of her father. She told this story for the first time yesterday, and then only when assured her father could not reach her.

Married Mrs. Goodrich.

Decker donned gay clothes again in a year and soon there was a wedding and a new mistress in the house, for Mrs. Goodrich had become his wife. She also had two children that came with her. One was named Rosie, at the time 12 years old; another was a boy. The boy soon died, how, it is not remembered. Rosie became Mrs. Edward Stone four years later. About this time Eva became a young woman. Benny had previously been sent to Oregon and was there doing business as a young man.

Decker announced one summer that he was going in an adjacent county to attend to cutting timber on a ranch, and that Eva must go with him. She pleaded with her step-mother, but to no avail, and father and daughter started.

They were gone three months. All that time, so it is now learned, they lived together in the woods. When they came back she was a physical wreck and her mind was affected. Shortly after she married a farmer named Preston, but she never lost that dread of her father.

Her Stomach Missing.

Mrs. Decker No. 2, who was Mrs. Goodrich, was taken ill a year or so later. Neighbors remarked at the time how attentive the husband was. Now they recall that he was so attentive that no one, not even the physician, was allowed at her bedside. Then it became necessary, in his opinion, that she have a change of air, and he took her to San Rafael, among strangers.

He brought back her corpse two weeks later. A Yreka undertaker noticed that the stomach was missing and reckoned that the embalmer had removed it. But previous to the death there had been another. Decker had visited his son Benny, way up in Oregon. When he came back he brought a lovely woman, the widow, he said, of his boy, who had died while his father was visiting him. Thus another witness of that ride in the Kildere Hills was out of the way.

Then there came Edward Stone and his wife and babe. Mrs. Stone was the little Rosie, the daughter, and then only living child of Mrs. Goodrich, or Mrs. Decker No. 2.

By the latter's will she (Rosie) was left most of her property, to revert to Decker if she died without child. One day Rosie's baby was crying fretfully in an adjoining room.

Marks on the Baby's Neck.

"I will stop her," remarked Decker, walking to the cradle. An hour later the little one was found dead. There was no investigation at that time, for Decker was thought an honest and upright man, but an old woman has been found who was at that time a nurse, and she says she saw marks of fingers on the baby's throat.

Edward Stone died a natural death a few months later, and beside his body that of his wife was soon laid. So Decker came into all the property, and he was much respected therefor, and there were no witnesses of that mysterious deed in Kildere Hills save Mrs. Preston.

Some persons have said unpleasant things about Decker in past years, but they were soon forgotten. Wealth and property was the armor plate that shielded him from the shaft of suspicion, and it was nothing but suspicion. Then the shepherd found the bones in the cavern.

All links seemed to spring together in a chain, and this fastened itself upon the neck of the respected townsman, George Decker. Fortunate for him that he is in prison today, that the walls are strong and that the sheriff has sworn in a number of deputies.

All along the Pacific Coast the story of his crimes is being told. It will soon become a narrative of international interest, for it will outlive in criminal history the notorious Deeming case of Australia.

Ghosts That Haunt Him.

These are the ghosts that it is now thought haunted Decker: His first wife and her newborn babe, murdered in the Kildere Hills; his second wife, believed to have been poisoned; Benny, the son of his first wife, died, no one knows how, in Oregon; a boy, the son of his second wife; Rosie, the daughter of his second wife; Edward, the husband of the daughter of his second wife; a baby, the child of Edward and Rosie, strangled in her cradle.

This makes eight in all. Some may have died from natural causes, but it is morally certain that Decker is guilty of making away with three—his wife and daughter and granddaughter—and enough evidence has been found even at this late day to cause the grand jury of Siskyou County to frame true bills, which will be presented to-morrow.

A LIVELY FIGHT AT A FUNERAL.

A Green and Orange Ruction at Portadown—Police Fired On—One Man Killed—Fourteen Arrests.

DUBLIN, May 14.—A Catholic mob attacked an Orangeman's funeral procession yesterday afternoon in Portadown on the Bann. The Orangemen fought hard.

Revolvers and clubs were used on both sides and before the police arrived one man was shot dead and several were severely injured. The police separated the combatants, arrested 14 men who were in the thick of the fight and were retreating with their prisoners when the mob turned on them and tried to rescue the men under arrest.

The police charged and the mob fired revolvers at them. More police were summoned and they arrested more rioters. The mob was then dispersed.

Favors a Low Tariff For France.

PARIS, May 15.—In speaking at the Lyons Exhibition M. Raynal, Minister of the Interior, said that although the low tariff policy had been abandoned in France the future was likely to prove that its supporters were right and properly understood the country's interests.

Vienna's Wet Nurses Strike.

VIENNA, May 14.—The strangest strike on record is that of the wet nurses of Vienna. The financial side of the question is that the registry offices get too large commissions.

Paris Jehus to Strike.

PARIS, May 14.—The Cabmen's Executive Committee has issued a manifesto, ordering a strike, which is to begin on Wednesday.

EAST TORONTO REFORMERS.

Convention to Be Held, Will Elgin Schoff Be the Candidate?

A meeting of the Reformers of East Toronto was held last night in Dingman's Hall. About 100 of the faithful were present, most of them being residents east of the Don. Mr. J. K. Leslie was appointed chairman of the meeting. Immediately after he had taken the chair an unseemly wrangle took place, several residents west of the Don expressing themselves forcibly regarding the way notices had been sent calling the meeting, alleging that residents west of the Don had not been notified at all of the gathering. After an hour had been expended in this manner the chairman called for nominations for the presidency of the ward organizations. The following gentlemen were proposed: J. K. Leslie, R. J. Fleming, F. S. Spence, Daniel Kelly and C. J. McCabe. Messrs. Leslie, Spence and Fleming all withdrew in favor of Mr. McCabe, and on a vote being taken between the remaining gentlemen Mr. McCabe was declared elected. He ascended the platform and in a short speech thanked the convention for the honor conferred on him. The election of vice-presidents resulted: West of Don, P. J. Muiqueen and Thomas Doughty; east of Don, John Ewan and John Gibb. Mr. Fleming moved that the appointment of secretaries, treasurers, delegates, etc., be left to the president, but the meeting ruled otherwise. P. Shea was elected secretary for the west and W. H. Smith for the east. There were many nominations for treasurer west of the Don, but most of the gentlemen refused to allow their names to go before the meeting; Daniel Kelly was one of those nominated, but he curtly thanked the mover and seconder and said it gave him great pleasure to refuse. T. R. Bain was unanimously elected. Peter McDonald was appointed treasurer for the over-the-river party. By this time there were only about 40 people left and Mr. Schoff, calling attention to this fact, moved that a meeting be called on each side of the Don for the election of delegates and an executive committee, which was carried. Mr. Schoff also moved that there be five delegates from each sub-division and one from the Young Liberal Club to attend the convention for selection of candidate. Other gentlemen present thought three delegates would be enough, but Mr. Schoff said that they wanted six so as to make a decent showing. The meeting for this purpose will be held on Thursday evening in Foulton's Hall, and on Friday evening in St. George's Hall.

Hon. Mr. Laurier at Pembroke.

PEMBROKE, May 14.—Hon. Mr. Laurier visited Pembroke to-day. In the afternoon he was presented with an address and in the evening spoke on the political issues of the day in the skating rink to an audience of 3000.

Snider, M.L.A., Declines Renomination

BERLIN, Ont., May 14.—Reformers of North Waterloo held their convention here to-day. E. W. B. Snider, M.L.A., was renominated, but positively declined to run. No other candidate was selected.

East Hastings Conservatives.

ROSLIN, Ont., May 14.—W. B. Northrup was unanimously nominated for the Dominion House; W. P. Hudson was unanimously nominated for the Local.

Mob Law in Newfoundland.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., May 14.—There was renewed disorder at Bay de Verde yesterday and to-day. Further conflicts are expected to-night. The whole district is in practically a state of petty warfare. The police force is inadequate to control the mob.

A WORLDLY WOMAN'S LOVE LETTER

An Edition of Nearly Five Hundred Thousand Already Sold.

A series of letters is usually uninteresting, and worse even than a diary, but Mrs W. K. Clifford's series of "Love Letters of a Worldly Woman" have proven of such surpassing interest that the sale has run up to nearly five hundred thousand copies. The book is now for sale by John F. McKenna, Bookseller, 80 Yonge-street, and every reader of it cannot fail to be struck with the perfect beauty of the language in which this author clothes her thoughts, and with the charming insight which she gives the reader into a most tragic life-drama. The play of passions as exhibited in the female characters of this book was never so delicately handled nor so strikingly displayed.

Seven Items of the Tariff Passed.

WASHINGTON, May 14.—The seventh week of the tariff bill in the Senate began to-day. There were seven items considered and disposed of.

Believe They Can Defeat the Bill.

WASHINGTON, May 14.—The Republicans of the Senate adjourned after four hours' caucus, at midnight. The tariff bill will be fought and the Republicans say they believe they can defeat it.

Cheer up by using Adams' Tutti Frutti to aid digestion. The most celebrated physicians use it and recommend it.

A Bomb In a Belgian Church.

LIEGE, Belgium, May 14.—The police found a bomb in the Church of St. Jacques. The fuse was unlighted. A Russian was arrested.

Beaver Tobacco is the "old reliable gentleman's chew." Don't forget it. ed

CHARLTON SAYS IT'S WICKED

TO MAKE ARTICLES FREE BY ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Another Sermon By the Blue Law Statesman—Major Hughes Enquires Re Major-General Herbert's Utterances and Gets His Answer—Further Changes in the Tariff Announced By Mr. Foster

OTTAWA, May 14.—Hon. Mr. Foster to-night gives notice of following further tariff changes:

Upper leather, including dongola, cordovan, kid, lamb, sheep and calf, dressed, waxed or glazed, 17 1-2 per cent. ad valorem.

Picks, mattocks, grub hoes, adze hatchets and poles for same, and edge tools of all descriptions, 35 per cent. ad valorem.

Shovels and spades, shovel and spade blanks, and iron or steel cut to shape for same, 50 cents per dozen and 25 per cent. ad valorem.

Cane, reed or rattan, split or otherwise manufactured, 17½ per cent. ad valorem.

Veneers of wood not over 1-16 of an inch thick, made from woods native to Canada, 10 per cent ad valorem.

Buggies, carriages and pleasure carts costing not more than $50, $5 each and 25 per cent. ad valorem.

The Labor Bureau Correspondence.

Hon. Mr. Daly to-day laid on the table a return to the motion made by Mr. Lepine on April 30 for copies of all communications received by the Minister of Agriculture with respect to the establishment of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The only correspondence on record is a memorial of the Knights of Labor, dated Quebec, Nov. 4, 1886, which reads: "That the best interests of the working classes demand an accurate knowledge of the movements and conditions of labor throughout the Dominion, and that this meeting would warmly urge upon the Government the necessity and importance of appointing a properly qualified commissioner of labor statistics at an early day."

This being private members' day, we devoted to considering notices of motions, quite a number of which were passed, but were not of much general interest.

Hughes Asks What Herbert Said.

Amongst the questions asked was the following by Major Sam Hughes: What words were used by Major-General Herbert on the occasion of his recent visit to Montreal in reference to the Pontifical Zouaves? Had Major-General Herbert permission from or the authority of the Honorable the Minister of Militia to use the words he did on that occasion?

Minister of Militia Not Responsible.

Hon. Mr. Patterson replied: I disclaim all responsibility for utterances of any officials connected with the department over which I have the honor to preside. There is no necessity for my authority being given for any of their utterances. At the same time, out of courtesy to my hon. friend, "Mr. Hughes," and with a desire to gratify his laudable thirst for knowledge, I will give him the exact words used by Major-General Herbert on the occasion to which he refers, when the Major-General was addressing a French-Canadian battalion in Montreal. I apologize in advance for any defects in my accent:

General Herbert's Address.

He then read in French, amid considerable amusement, a statement of the words used, of which the following is a translation:

"You have amongst you some of those who, justly called the Nineteenth Century Crusaders, performed at once the same time a military and a religious duty on the battlefields of Montana and Monte Rotundo, and at the very gates of the Eternal City. It is therefore your duty to be at the front and to display the military qualities of your race and its hereditary devotion to your native land."

Charlton on "The Mills of the Gods."

A great portion of the afternoon session was taken up by a long speech by Mr. Charlton on a motion for a return showing the amount and value of cotton yarn and steel imported into Canada free of duty in each year since 1885 under the provisions of order in council of Nov. 6, 1885. Taking this as his text, Mr. Charlton preached a dry and uninteresting sermon on the iniquity of placing articles on the free list by order in council. He seemed to think this a very wicked thing for the Government to do and said that by degrees all the evil deeds of the Government were being found out. He wound up his oration by quoting, "The mills of the gods grind slowly, but they grind exceeding small."

Sir John Thompson: Yes, they seem to grind the Opposition smaller every time.

Several Motions Carried.

After recess Mr. Charlton's motion passed, as were several others of a like nature by the same gentleman. A number of other motions for papers were carried, and Mr. Patterson's (Brant) resolution that 300 copies of the Indian Department report be distributed annually amongst the tribes having trust funds was adopted.

At half-past 9 Mr. Tarte's motion for correspondence relating to the establishment of a steamship line between France and Canada was carried and Sir John Thompson moved the adjournment of the House.

Cape Colony's Delegates To the Ottawa Conference.

CAPE TOWN, May 14.—Cape Colony will send Sir John de Villier, Chief Justice, and Sir Charles Mills, Attorney-General in London, as her delegates to the conference which will be held in Ottawa to arrange for closer trade relations of British colonies. Sir John de Villiers will sail from this port to-morrow.

Shot and Robbed by Her Lover.

NEW YORK, May 14.—Employes of the New Jersey Trap Rock Co. discovered the insensible body of a young woman. Dr. King found two pistol bullets, one in the breast and the other behind the right ear of the girl. On being revived she gave her name as Sadie Werts of Rome, N.Y., and said she came to Jersey City Sunday morning with her betrothed to be married.

The man's name was Bernard Holenberg, 22, a tailor, also of Rome. He induced her to draw all her savings from the bank and leave Rome to be married. They stayed in Jersey City all day and attended church. After supper Holenberg took her for a walk and then shot her. Everything was stripped from the body by her assailant, who doubtless left the girl for dead and took everything that might lead to her identity, or by which he might himself be traced.

Five Shots For His Wife, One For Himself.

KEOKUK, Ia., May 14.—J. S. Dygraff, an insurance agent, killed his divorced wife at noon to-day, shooting her five times. He then turned the revolver on himself, inflicting injuries from which he soon died.

Druggists say Coughicura is booming.

Why Typhoid Fever Cases Are Increasing.

Because while the water was cold bacteria could not develop to any great extent, but now that the water is becoming warmer the evil effect of it is being badly felt and typhoid fever cases are increasing. The leading physicians recommend drinking Sprudel, because every bottle is put up fresh at the celebrated Mt. Clemens Spring. If it were shipped in casks this warm weather and bottled in Toronto it might be loaded up with bacteria. These bacteria are the germs of typhoid, scarlet fever and diphtheria.

Extensive Damage by a Bursting Dam.

LIMA, Mont., May 14.—The Lima dam broke yesterday morning. The water after leaving the dam has a clean sweep through a well-settled country for over 60 miles.

Coughicura will cure your baby's cold. 10c

Personal.

Capt. Streatfeild, A.D.C., is in town.

J. A. Barber, assistant engineer C.P.R., Toronto, has been promoted to the position of divisional engineer, St. John, N.B.

Fetherstonhaugh & Co., patent solicitors [illegible], Toronto.

DASHED TO DEATH AT NIAGARA.

Fell a Hundred Feet—His Brains Dashed Out, His Neck, Arms and Legs Broken.

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., May 14.—Frank Ellis, 15, met a terrible death this afternoon. The lad, with another named Cole, was exploring for a new path to the water's edge from the top of the precipice. Young Ellis, to make a survey below the precipice, placed one foot on a limb of a tree that hung over. He looked down and as his full weight came on the limb it gave way and he was dashed on the rocks about 100 feet below.

The body was found terribly mangled, his brains being dashed out, his neck, both arms and legs being broken and one side of the face being crushed in.

Thrown From a Rig and Killed.

BRATTLEBORO, Vt., May 14.—A party of five women were driving down a steep hill entering the village, when the neckyoke broke and they were all thrown from the carriage. A Miss Blood struck an iron grating, killing her instantly, while the others were taken up mangled and bleeding.

Crushed to Death in a Turbine.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 14.—Moise Joaneisse of Chelsea was crushed and drowned in a turbine. He went into the wheel to repair some damage, and while there some party above let in the water, the revolving wheel crushing him in a terrible manner.

Fell Off Walkerville Dock.

WINDSOR, Ont., May 14.—William Durkie fell off the refinery at Walkerville this afternoon and was drowned.

Drowned Near Brechin.

BRECHIN, Ont., May 14.—Samuel Tomlin, 23, an Englishman, was drowned in Mud Lake May 6. His body was recovered yesterday.

Found in the River at Perth.

PERTH, Ont., May 14.—The body of Miss Kate Brennan was found this morning in the river. She was missed last evening. Her mind was affected.

Killed and Injured by a Gas Explosion.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., May 14.—By an explosion of gas at the Burridge Colliery at Mahanoy Plane one man was instantly killed, two fatally and two severely burned.

Instantly Killed At Port Hope.

PORT HOPE, May 14.—This afternoon Ab. Sidney was instantly killed near the Grand Trunk station by a tree falling on him.

Death of a Brock Township Pioneer.

CANNINGTON, May 14.—Mr. Thomas Amey is dead, after an illness of only 10 days. He came to Brock Township from Lower Canada in 1837, was for many years deputy-reeve, and during his term of office the bylaw was carried for the Toronto and Nipissing Railway. In politics he was a life-long Conservative. He leaves a widow, two sons, John and William Amey, and one daughter, Mrs. J. C. Darnbrough.

Earl of Lindsay.

LONDON, May 14.—John Trotter Lindsay-Bethune, the 10th Earl of Lindsay, died on Saturday at his country house at Kilconquhar, Fifeshire. He was 67 years of age.

Post Latto Gone.

NEW YORK, May 14.—Thomas C. Latto, the Scottish poet, died in Brooklyn on Saturday evening.

Sudden Death in Paris.

PARIS, Ont., May 14.—Yesterday morning D. L. Winter, a cigar manufacturer, was found dead in bed. Heart disease.

A Farmer Dies From Brain Fever.

COMBER, Ont., May 14.—Hugh Gracey, a Tilbury West farmer, died suddenly Saturday night of brain fever.

High Sheriff of London Dies in Texas.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., May 14.—James Parkinson Taylor died yesterday of paralysis of the brain. He was Lord High Sheriff of London, Eng.

Prof. Morley Dead.

LONDON, May 14.—Prof. Henry Morley, LL.D., the distinguished author and lecturer, is dead.

Sudden Death of a London Physician.

LONDON, Ont., May 14.—Dr. A. G. Fenwick, prominent physician of this city, ex-dean of Western University and one of the members of the lecturing staff, died suddenly at his residence this afternoon.

Died in a Fit.

HAMILTON, May 14.—Joseph Lamesure, who worked for the Sawyer-Massey Company, fell in a fit at Barton-James-streets at noon and died shortly afterwards.

Paralyzed In the Pulpit.

PHILADELPHIA, May 14.—Rev. J. W. Langley was stricken with paralysis in the pulpit yesterday. His theme was "The Uncertainty of Life." His death is expected.

Died in the Desert of Thirst.

PHENIX, Ariz., May 14.—The bodies of W. M. Rogers and W. McDonald were found on Harquhala Desert, 60 miles from here. The men were prospectors, and perished of thirst while attempting to cross 40 miles of desert on foot.

A Mine on Fire—500 Lives Endangered.

IRONWOOD, Mich., May 14.—The great Aurora mine is on fire. Just how much damage has been done can not be told as yet. The lives of 500 men are in danger and the whole community is in great excitement. The Aurora mine is one of the best-known mines on the Gogebic range and did not shut down on account of hard times.

Cause of the Brooklyn Tabernacle Fire.

BROOKLYN, May 14.—The fire which destroyed the Tabernacle, the Hotel Regent and two blocks of dwellings was started by the contact between an organ stop and a badly insulated electric power wire inside the organ

Lightning and Gasoline—Loss $50,000.

ST. LOUIS, May 14.—The club house in Forest Park was struck by lightning this morning. The bolt struck a gasoline pipe and instantly the structure was ablaze. Loss $50,000.

A London Man Surrenders at Bay City.

BAY CITY, Mich., May 14.—Beverly Murray of London, Ont., a brother of George Murray, the alleged accomplice of Charles W. Thayer, the embezzling bank clerk now serving five years in prison, gave himself up Saturday. He is charged with having received $50 in gold from Thayer last January.

Scattered the Railroad Track Around.

FERGUS FALLS, Minn., May 14.—An electrical storm of a cyclonic character passed over this county last night. Near Henning the cyclone lifted a section of the Northern Pacific track bodily into the air and scattered it over the surrounding country.

$150 Burglary at Sundridge.

SUNDRIDGE, Ont., May 14.—The express and postoffice here was broken into and burglarized last night. They were not very richly rewarded for their trouble, as they only got a little change amounting to $1.50.

Beauharnois Canal Blocked.

VALLEYFIELD, Ont., May 14.—The steamer Ocean had a log jammed in her wheel in lock No. 7, Beauharnois Canal, this morning and carried away three gates, interrupting traffic.

Eleven Millions Below the Reserve.

WASHINGTON, May 14.—The stated treasury balance to-day is $122,557,000, of which $39,361,000 is in gold.

No Grass Butter Yet.

Still fine butter sold away down in price, 17c a lb. for fine tub or roll butter at 77 to 81 Queen-street west. 246

FIGURES WOFULLY WOBBLED

YORK TOWNSHIP'S FINANCES IN A MUDDLED CONDITION.

The Report of the Special Auditor Shows That the Books Have Been Badly Kept, That Proper Care Has Not Been Exercised Over Officials and That the Council of 1893 Received Moneys Contrary to the Provisions of the Statute.

At a meeting of York Township Council yesterday the special auditor, Mr. A. C. Neff, presented the report of his labors during the past three months as auditor for 1892 and 1893. The first statement presented is the balance sheet, from which it will be seen that the total liability of the township Dec. 31, 1893, was $92,592.67; toward this there were available assets of $40,382.45, leaving a deficiency in this connection of $52,210.22.

The other resources of the township consist of unpaid taxes returned to the county treasurer. After applying these toward the above deficiency there still remains a net deficiency of $32,210.22. The total liability to the bank at Dec. 31, 1893, was $59,607.76.

The bank overdraft on account of local improvements will be reduced by the issue of debentures, but this will not reduce the net deficiency, as the open accounts against the local improvements have been included in the assets as representing these debentures. The advances in this connection amount to $12,336.76.

In 1878 the school fund amounted to $41,002, and since then it has been gradually absorbed in the general funds of the township, as the securities matured, until the year 1891 the total amount of the fund is $18,621.50. Of this amount $17,521.50 is invested in proper securities, the balance, $1.00, is on special deposit and constitutes no part of the assets.

Several errors occurred in the school section accounts, chiefly in the charges for coupons paid by the township.

Sinking Funds.

Sinking funds required to be set aside to meet local improvements should have amounted to $7339.20. These are almost wholly unprovided for, the only appropriation being the purchase of a debenture for $1979.02. There is a further liability to the local improvements for special rates collected to meet coupons and debentures amounting to $7174.54, making a total of $12,534.72 local improvement moneys in the general funds.

Liabilities of 1893 for sundry accounts, $7004.78, were left over to be paid in 1894.

Collectors' Accounts.

Errors were found in the returns made by the collectors in 1891-92. The large sum of $21,131.06 of the taxes of 1893 were returned to the county treasurer as uncollectable, being more than one-fourth of the entire levy.

On Dec. 31, 1893, there were uncollected taxes of $40,100.53, of which $13,357.63 has been paid by May 1, leaving a balance due by the collectors of $5704.95.

The total debenture debt of the township is $163,676.87, of which $94,769.44 is for local improvements and $70,916.43 for school loans.

In 1893 the commuted tax amounted to $9194.50 and the expenditure to $14,453.98, the difference being composed of the township and the general funds. The balance now against the districts amounts to $3188.41, or nearly a whole year's tax.

Condition of the Books.

The auditor found that the system of bookkeeping in use is entirely inadequate to keep a proper record of the affairs. The day book or cash book had never been balanced, and the only adjustment made by previous auditors when balancing their receipts and expenditures.

The accounts with the school sections have been kept in pass books, a separate one for each year, and should one be lost it could not be replaced.

Special bank accounts were created for each local improvement, and one effect of this was to make the liability to the bank appear less than it really was by separating the amounts overdrawn on local improvement account from the overdraft on general account.

The treasurer had been twice instructed by the council to open special bank accounts with each statute labor district, and had this been done the general account overdraft at the bank would have appeared still further reduced.

Errors have been found in the books prior to 1893, which had been passed by the auditors.

The Treasurer Lax.

The treasurer has not insisted on the production to him by the collectors of duplicate returns of uncollectable taxes before settling with them, and has credited them the amounts claimed as uncollectable without requiring the necessary statutory declaration, and has also credited the amounts claimed as errors or double assessments without their having been rebated by the council.

Auditors' Reports.

An examination of the auditors' reports prior to 1893 showed that errors had occurred and that the examinations had been too much a matter of form and an important asset, viz., taxes returned to county treasurer for collection, has not appeared in the statement for many years. The local improvements also, which had special bank accounts, were left out of the general report.

Assessments.

The assessments have been, in many instances, imperfect and erroneous and the loss by redemptions and withdrawals of imperfectly described property for taxes returned in 1889 amount to $1500, and this is small when compared with subsequent years.

Collectors.

The collectors have been in the habit of retaining moneys until a considerable sum had accumulated before paying same over to the treasurer, and have in some instances been allowed to hold back sufficient to cover their salaries. The returns of some of the collectors have been delayed each year until there was not sufficient time to check the same before handing over to the county treasurer.

The duties of the clerk appear to have been well attended to, and all documents and information in his charge were readily available.

Expenditure Contrary to Law.

The statutes provide that a council may pass a bylaw fixing the rate of payment of members of the council at a rate not exceeding $3 per day and five cents per mile each way, but this was practically ignored in 1891-2, when bylaws were passed to pay the members a lump sum, and no bylaw whatever was passed in 1893, but in that year the members draw the same salaries as in the previous year.

Many accounts of members for special meetings were paid without reference thereto in the minutes or in the money bylaws. The report finds that the members of the council drew amounts in excess of those to which they might have been entitled under proper bylaws, as follows: In 1891, $316.10; in 1892, $353.70; in 1893, $323.70.

The report will be discussed item by item at a subsequent meeting.

A. C. Neff presented a bill for $133, re the arbitration between the city and the township. Referred to the solicitor.

The award of the arbitrators of the disputed accounts between the city and township was read and ordered to be filed.

Mr. A. L. Willson addressed the council and protested on behalf of the ratepayers against the payment of any moneys whatever on this award and claimed that the township had no right to pay one cent.

Reeve Hill said he believed the township should pay the amount of the award as settled by the arbitrators and he, for one, did not propose to go back on the arbitrators.

The treasurer was ordered to draw a cheque for the amount of the award.

A bill was presented from Mr. Thomas Humberstone for services in connection with the arbitration between the city and the township, amounting to $373.56. The bill showed that while Mr. Humberstone was to be charged the statutory amount of $3 per day and mileage, but that since ceasing to be reeve he had charged $10 per day and mileage. A letter attached from Mr. Humberstone stated that he "would have accept the statutory fees of a common councillor." The bill was referred to the township solicitors.

On motion of Messrs. Sylvester and Goulding the engineer was instructed to ask for a proper record of the affairs. The day book or cash book had never been balanced, and the only adjustment made by previous auditors when balancing their receipts and expenditures.

The accounts with the school sections have been kept in pass books, a separate one for each year, and should one be lost it could not be replaced.

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WILFRID'S NEW DOLLY.

LITTLE D'ALTON (pathetically): If y' don't want yer old Farmer dolly any more, Wilfrid, I wisht you'd give it to me. I ain't had anythin' to play with since Johnny Thompson smashed my Grievance Dolly.

MAY BE DEAD IN THE RAVINE.

No Trace Discovered of Mrs. Ross, Who Wandered Away From Her Home Saturday Night.

Mrs. Sureney Ross, the widow who wandered away from her home, 606 Parliament-street, on Saturday night, has not yet been found. When she left the house she proceeded up Parliament-street to Howard and west in Howard. When last seen she was in Ontario-street below Wellesley, but after that no trace of her can be found.

When she left the house she had no hat or wrap on and evidently did not intend to remain away long. But she was subject to sudden seizures of an insane nature, to which she is subject ever since her husband's death, and wandered off. Unless she was taken in and sheltered some place she would suffer severely from exposure, as she was in delicate health, and her daughter feels great anxiety concerning her.

'TWILL SOON BE HERE.

The Straw Hat Is Coming—Dines n Still To the Fore.

We must prepare for the reign of the straw hat. It requires but little warm weather, a few fine days, to bring summer upon us, and with summer comes the reign of the straw hat.

Those who are popularly supposed to be weatherwise have predicted a long and hot summer, and apparently the day of the light straw hat will be longer than usual.

All the finest straws worn in Toronto are sold by Messrs. W. & D. Dineen, the famous hatters of the corner of King and Yonge-streets.

In anticipation of an unusually heavy demand the firm has made large importations of the most approved straw hats in this summer's designs, as well as a large stock of light summer felts.

The new English straws are already in—see them at Dineens'.

Corner King and Yonge, and 254 Yonge.

A Warning.

Do not put off visiting Bonner and making your purchases until it is too late, as we sell at prices which defy competition. Mark our prices for this week: Men's Cambric shirts for 50c each, all sizes from 14 to 16½; these goods you will find marked in other stores at 75c and $1. White shirts with colored fronts and cuffs, the latest styles, at 50c each; men's natural merino shirts and drawers for 40c, all sizes, from 34 inches to 44 inches; French Balbriggan shirts and drawers 45c, all sizes, from 32 to 46: umbrellas worth $1.50 for $1. Bonner's, corner Yonge and Queen-streets. 246

For mental unrest use Adams' Pepsin Tutti Frutti. It wonderfully aids digestion, strengthening the nerves.

$500,000 Spent In Bribing Senators.

NEW YORK, May 14.—The Press prints a full history of the compromise Tariff bill introduced in the Senate last Monday and a full and true account of the surrender to the great trusts. The article states that the Sugar trust not only paid $500,000 for the legislation it wanted, but also guaranteed United States Senators who speculate a rise of 30 points in Wall-street on Sugar trust stock. It is also claimed that the Standard