

PEOPLE AND PLACES

DOWN in the Niagara peninsula, that "garden of the Lord," the fruit farms these wooing March days are getting lively. The pruners are out. The snow is going off the orchards and the vineyards and the inquisitive fruit-growers, inspired by the sentiment of Nature that made old Virgil write his beautiful book called the "Georgics," are prying into the buds to see what the prospects may be for 1908. They are delighted. The heavy snows of this much-abused winter have been a great boon to the peach-tree and the grape-vine; the buds are full of nutriment and the plowshare will soon be going down the rows with the patient, whistling fruit-man behind. The only danger now is in premature warm weather.

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AN Alberta Englishman named Lamb recently lost his life in a brave attempt to save five of his comrades from the pit of a burning coal mine at Strathcona. Three times Lamb went down to the pit, but he failed to save the men and he lost his life in the attempt. This man was as good a sample of a hero as Canada ever had. He had no motive but a desire to save his fellows. He had no vision of blaring trumpets and public acclaim. He only thought he saw his duty and did it. It is some consolation to know that his sister, who lives in Newcastle-on-Tyne, got the King Edward medal for her brother's sake.

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MR. FRANCOIS ADAM, a Canadian Belgian, is in Belgium lecturing on Canada. Mr. Adam is one of the few Belgians who have settled in the Canadian West. In seventeen years of Alberta life he has made money enough to be the leading citizen of Camrose, one of the new towns of middle Alberta, and to spend a winter abroad with his family whenever he feels disposed. Mr. Adam was for years a fur trader. He went up from Calgary before there was a railway to Edmonton. With his coachman he bought a waggon and team and drove up the stage trail. The second day out they reached the Battle River. In a short while Mr. Adam had a store started at a half-breed settlement known as Duhamel. Here in a most picturesque and inviting spot he remained for years as the lord of the settlement; the little white chief of the hunters who had lost the buffaloes and who brought him furs. Now Mr. Adam owns three thousand acres of the finest land in Alberta, most of it got from the half-breeds who never would have learned to farm it. He is a model landlord and a sort of general adviser to all sorts and conditions of people who may not happen to know the ways of the West as well as he does himself. He is enthusiastic over Camrose, which is one of the newest and most ambitious towns in Alberta—nine miles from Duhamel and the old store which Mr. Adam set up years ago, and from the spot on

the entire word "one," the forger scratched off, with a penknife, the letter "e," and the right hand upper section of the letter "o." Then he placed a little dash on the right hand upper corner of the "o," making it look like a capital "T." By erasing the joining line between the "o" and the "n" a space was made for the letter "e." In the upper left hand corner of the money order were the figures "\$1 65," a fairly wide margin separating the "1" from the "65." A cipher inserted here finished the job. Homer must have taken a long while over this forgery. His brain should be given a post-mortem examination in the interests of psychology. Furthermore, Homer is defending his own case.

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TWO Murphies near Port Arthur were lately treed by wolves. They spent all one cold night in a tree with a pack of timber wolves at the bottom of the tree. The treeing took place at dusk, and it was dawn before Pat Murphy, who had his gun, got a chance to shoot four of the wolves, for which he got the bounty of ten dollars a head, which as he concluded was better than paying ten dollars each for the privilege of rooming in the jack-pine, and another proof that it's better for a man to be descended from a monkey than to descend into a wolf.

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REV. JOHN MACKAY, principal of the new Presbyterian Theological College in connection with the Provincial University at Victoria, has left Montreal and gone to the coast to take charge of the work. A lively interest is being taken in this college and Principal Mackay, who is one of the many new college principals that have lately gone from the academic East to the bustling West, will find the people west of the Rockies as strong on theology as on most other things. He is an exceptionally able man and will be heartily welcomed in the western capital. Mr. Mackay has been pastor of the Crescent Street Church in Montreal.

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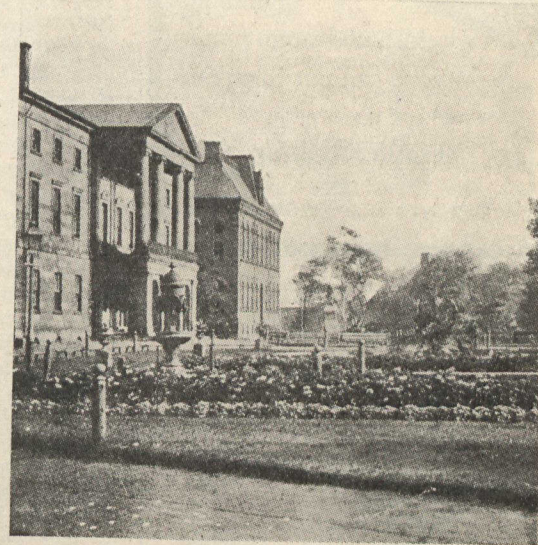
FRANK T. SAMPSON, an English immigrant in Toronto, has been writing home to the newspapers. He has been doing his best to warn friends in England against the seductions of the Salvation Army. His letter to the editor reads in part:

"There are nearly 500 families in this district, most of whom are out of work owing to the closing down of most of the large factories, and the outlook is most serious, and unless the sum of money in hand is considerably enlarged, I dread to think of what must be the result. Capt. Manton is in a way right when he says that there is plenty of work out here. So there is; but are all the people who emigrate to this Land of Promise farm hands or railway navvies? Even for the last-named occupation they

profession out there might adopt the title of a Toronto dentist who on his sign styles himself an orthodontist—probably meaning that only the right teeth will be pulled and mended.

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IT took a railway to keep British Columbia in the Confederation. Down at the other end of all the railways in Canada Mr. Alex. Martin, the mem-



Legislative Buildings at Charlottetown, P.E.I.

ber for Queen's, P.E.I., intimates that it might require a tunnel to keep the Island Province from cutting the painter. He says that in 1903 the island was excommunicated from the mainland for 59 days and in 1905 for 64 days, on account of no ferries running. He even went so far as to hint that unless the Government should build a tunnel the islanders might shoulder arms as the half-breeds did on the Saskatchewan. For a pastoral people this is pretty strong language; but the islanders are sturdy men. Nevertheless they have more poetry on the island than in most other parts of the Dominion—the poetry of whispering waters and shady nooks. To think of losing the island from Confederation would be to think of losing the most distinctively charming province in the family; besides, we should lose dairy industries to the extent of \$300,000 annually.

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SEEDING is starting in the West and already the prophetic Winnipeg "Commercial" begins to forecast the crop—long before nine-tenths of the seed is in the ground. According to that paper the West this year is to have a crop of 140 million bushels. This rosy estimate is based on the fine weather last fall and the fact that the farmers had a chance to get fore-handed with their fall plowing. This of course means much to the crop. Seed sown over the frost in the spring has a chance to grow while the frost is coming up. Seed which has to wait until the frost is sufficiently out for the plough must take its chances on being a month later; perhaps late enough to be caught by a precocious frost in the fall before it has a chance to ripen—the kind of frost that did so much damage to last year's crop. However, the Winnipeg "Commercial" has been guessing before now, and it is remembered that the publisher of that paper lost a box of cigars last summer on a wager over the aggregate of last year's crop.

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THE restless American lumber companies that have for years been so prominent on the Pacific coast and are now pushing up into the Peace River Valley, the last West, are becoming busy also on the St. John River. At a point where this historic river forms part of the boundary between New Brunswick and Maine, this company has started to block the river. Acting under alleged authority from the State of Maine, they have begun to fling booms across the stream to catch down-coming logs and have built works on both sides of the river. This is said to be in violation of the Ashburton Treaty by which Maine narrowly missed being a part of New Brunswick and by the terms of which no interference was to be tolerated in navigable boundary waters. That is any stream not navigable might have booms flung over it to obstruct logs by either of the parties concerned in the treaty; but the blocking of a navigable river like the St. John is a different matter.



First Train-load of Lumber Hauled into Camrose, Alta., by a Traction Engine over the Trail

the prairie where one beautiful fall day the year after he came out he was married in the open air near a creek to the lady who had come all the way from Belgium to meet him on the prairie.

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ONE of the cleverest Indians in Canada is now on trial at London, Ont. Isaac Homer is his name; he hails from Muncey on the Thames—one of the Six Nations Indians—and Isaac has been stimulated by his last name to take an interest in literature. So far his technic has not gone beyond forging in favour of himself a postal money order. Here is a case of psychology. A red man whose ancestors made picture writing takes a money order made originally for \$1.65; having made sure that this paper is good for any amount he can get written on it in legal hand he raises it to \$10.65 by the following ingenious and back-handed process: The words "One dollar" were written on the top line of the order, and the cents beneath. Instead of erasing

prefer Italians and Poles; in fact, anyone who is not English gets the preference. For the good of many people who are on the point of being gulled by the passage-gaining statements of the Salvation Army, I will heartily thank you to insert these few lines of warning in your columns. I remain, yours, etc."

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THEY are having a drastic time over the Dentistry Bill in the British Columbia Legislature. This is Attorney-General Bowser's Bill and ostensibly aims at establishing a Dentist College and Council and any other professional machinery likely to place tooth-pulling on a real professional basis in that province. Some members are hotly opposed to the Bill and claim it will establish a close corporation. Others as warmly advocate the Bill because at present there is no restriction on who shall or shall not pull and repair teeth. Meanwhile the dentists will continue to send in their bills as usual. Perhaps some of the