

WILLIAMS PIANOS

Slaves to Red Tape
Firemen Who Could Not Recognize a Hydrant.
Engines Ran Out of Fuel
And It Took a Lot of Persuasion to Get Engineers to Accept Coal.

Some of the ridiculous developments that came out in the official investigation of the causes of the Great Fire in London several weeks ago—the troubles in the hinterland of Africa—General News by Cable.

London, Dec. 8.—The official inquiry into the causes and circumstances of the great fire in this city on Nov. 19 begins to develop points of inefficiency on the part of the fire brigade which would be causing if they were not so serious. One witness testified that at 22 minutes after the alarm was given, another witness told how some of the firemen failed to recognize the hydrants when they saw them, because they were not marked with the letter "H" as in their district in the south of London. They thought the hydrants were electric light boxes.

It was also shown that the supply of coal was extremely scanty. Some of the engines stopped work because they had no coal, and many others were short of fuel that their efficiency was greatly impaired. The engines of the fire brigades were such slaves to red tape that they refused to accept the coal made by anxious citizens.

The supply of coal maintained by the County Council was two miles away from the fire, and the engineers had no idea of obtaining fuel from any other source. Eventually, however, three engines were supplied with coal by citizens.

THE TROUBLE IN AFRICA.
French Troops Had Not Fought With the Natives at Nikki.
Lagos, West Coast of Africa, Dec. 8.—Additional advice just received from the interior say the French troops had five engagements with the natives before effectively occupying Nikki, the capital of Borgu. The king of that country fled to the bush.

BRITISH TROOPS NOT ORDERED TO MASSAWAH.
London, Dec. 8.—The St. James' Gazette has announced that the British Government does not expect any further trouble with France regarding the Upper Nile. The British Government has agreed to accept the situation.

The danger was that the occupiers of that part of the country could divert the course of the Nile and render Egypt a waste.

BRITISH TROOPS NOT ORDERED TO MASSAWAH.
London, Dec. 8.—A report from Cairo that strong forces of British troops had been ordered to proceed to Massawah, the Italian headquarters in the Sudan, was denied at the Foreign Office today.

FRENCH CRUISERS FOR CHINA.
Four War Vessels Ordered to Prepare for Immediate Despatch.
London, Dec. 8.—According to a special despatch just received from Paris, the French cruisers Jean Bart, Isly, Alger and Pascal have been ordered to be prepared for immediate despatch to China.

APPOINTMENT OF QUEEN'S COUNSEL.
The Imperial Privy Council sustains the contention of the Ontario Government.
London, Dec. 8.—(Telegram Cable.)—The Privy Council today gave judgment dismissing the appeal of the Attorney-General of Ontario against the decision of the Ontario Court of Appeal, which was in favor of the Attorney-General of Ontario, in the case of the appointment of Queen's counsel. Lord Watson, with associate law lords, dissenting, did not entertain any doubt that the Legislature of Ontario had ample authority to give the Lieutenant-Governor the power to confer precedence by patent upon such members of the provincial bar as he thought fit, with costs to the Province.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA.
There left as emigrants for Canada during the month of November 325 English, 51 Irish, 7 Scotch and 456 foreigners. Returns for the past eleven months show the number of emigrants to be 13,484. During the same eleven months there were 817 Irish, 1273 Scotch and 6846 foreigners, an increase compared with 1896 of 262.

IMPORTS FROM CANADA.
Baltimore, Dec. 8.—At Herford, the publisher and manager of the Bureau of Statistics has reported that the value of imports from the Dominion of Canada for the month of November was \$1,801,294, compared with \$1,484,316 for the same month of 1896. The value of goods imported for the month was \$1,801,294, compared with \$1,484,316 for the same month of 1896. The value of goods imported for the month was \$1,801,294, compared with \$1,484,316 for the same month of 1896.

THE GIBBONS' ORIGINAL TOBACCO.
Can. sold by druggists. Price 10c.

WATERBURY'S
Have not such craters in fifteen years as the craters of our patrons. Who are now using our style canisters. Booth's best, Baltimore stock, pint and quart cans, full measure. Sole agents, C. G. Gibson's Patent Mfg. Co., Tel. 189, 241.

THE PRO-AMERICAN WORLD.

ALAS, POOR TORRICK!
Mr. Blake has put his foot in it again, and we trust for the last time, as far as this country is concerned. He leaves us in a few days for England, and he gave us a parting message at the National Club last night, where, at a dinner in honor of His Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, the member for Longford replied to the toast of "Canada and the Empire." His speech, carefully prepared, read throughout, and delivered with a suppressed energy, was to the effect that there was "not one gleam of light" as to Imperial unity; that the future was veiled; that England could only help us by her navy; that the Yankees would in all probability clean us out in war; and that the best we could hope to do was to contribute something toward the maintenance of the English navy.

What Killed Mr. Fink?
A Post-Mortem Revealed No Traces of Poison, But the Contents of the Stomach Will Be Analyzed.
Waterloo, Dec. 8.—The post-mortem held this morning by Coroner Webb and Doctors Armitage and Bauman on the body of the late Paul Fink, who is reported to have been poisoned yesterday, resulted in not a trace of poison being found, but the contents of the stomach will be sent to Toronto for analysis.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.
The old cruiser Yantic has arrived at Toronto.
Mrs. McKinley is still living and little change has occurred in her condition.

RECRUITING OFFICER GOLDWIN SMITH: What's the meaning of that report? PRIVATE CHARLTON (saluting): Private Ross, sir. He has not only deserted, but is now firing upon us.

LOOK OUT FOR THEM!
Thieves Have All Sorts of Schemes and John F. Scholes Had a Very Narrow Escape.
The manner in which robbers in hotel rooms have been doing recently is probably accounted for by an experience which befell John F. Scholes of the Athlete Hotel last night before he had taken a nap.

MARKHAM ODDFELLOWS.
Gave a Banquet to Grand Master Young Last Night and There Was a Right Good Time.
Markham, Dec. 8.—Grand Master Young of the I.O.O.F. visited Toronto last night and was entertained by the Oddfellows.

COOK'S TURKISH BATHS 204 KING ST. W.
Ladies' gratis, evening 5c.
Children Free.
By sending your name and address, printed or written, to Adams & Sons Co., 11 & 13 Jarvis-street, Toronto, and one wrapper from the 5c Turkish Fruit gum dolls with movable heads and shoulders free.

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RADIATOR

Empress of Table Waters
L. ONE CENT
NET ANOTHER MURDER
Riot Among Laborers on the Soulanges Canal.
COTEAU DU LAC THE SCENE
An Italian Was the Victim and Two Frenchmen are Under Arrest.

Montreal, Dec. 8.—A serious riot broke out to-night between the French Canadian and Italian laborers employed on the Soulanges Canal at Coteau du Lac, about 25 miles from Montreal. Alexis Greco, an Italian, was killed and several were badly injured. The Italians are up in arms and threatening trouble. Police have been sent from Montreal to the scene, and several arrests have been made.

TOOK CARBOLIC ACID.
A Young Canadian Girl Attempts Suicide in Buffalo—Looks Like a Hysterical Case.
Suzie Archer, a good-looking young woman, 23 years of age, swallowed carbolic acid in Black Rock, Buffalo, on Tuesday night, apparently with suicidal intent. She is a Canadian and it was reported that her home was in Toronto, but enquiries of various families of that name showed she is not known here.

ELITE FUR QUALITIES AT DINEEN'S.
The morning hours are the best of the year for a leisurely inspection of the vast display of new fur fashions in Dineen's new store, 140 Yonge-street, where the day is in the evening, when the light is in the morning, and when fur qualities, new effects, in the brilliant light of the afternoon, are seen to advantage. The Christmas display of fashions for fashions is a masterpiece of art and science, and includes the latest in fur, ermine, mink, seal, fox, and all the other high-grade qualities of hand-made fur, and the finest of the season, which will prove their price next quarter century, and prove highly profitable investments at Dineen's present low prices.

THE PROVINCE WINS AGAIN.
Premier Hardy received a cablegram yesterday, announcing that the Judicial Committee of the Imperial Privy Council had decided the Province's case in favor of the Province. The Dominion Government had asked the right of the Lieutenant-Governor to exercise the authority conferred upon him by the Legislature to appoint Queen's counsel, and carried the case to the Privy Council, with the result as stated.

Art sale this afternoon at 2.30.
Paintings by W. H. Thomas Smith, W. E. Atkinson and A. C. Williamson. C. J. Townsend & Co., Auctioneers.

DEATHS.
HUNTER—At 507 Adelaide-street west, Thursday morning, Eda H., beloved wife of J. S. Hunter, 29 years 3 months. Funeral notice later.
BRUNE—At 163 College-street, Dec. 8, George Brunel, of inland Revenue, Dec. 8, of the late Colonel Brunel. Funeral from No. 300 College street at 2.30 p.m. Thursday, 9th inst.
POTTER—On Wednesday, Dec. 8, at her residence, 265 Euclid-avenue, Edna Mary Potter, eldest and dearly-beloved daughter of George and Julia Potter, aged 10 years and 10 months. Funeral will leave the above address on Friday, Dec. 10, at 2.30 p.m.

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